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BRUNEI

FIRST ARMED FORCES COMMANDER APPOINTED

BK100930 Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English 4 Jan 86 p 3

[Text] The Royal Brunei Armed Forces [RBAF] have moved into a new era with the appointment of the first Bruneian commander.

He is Brigadier General Pehin Dato Haji Mohamed bin Haji Daud, 42, who succeeded the last of the Sultanate's British military commanders, Brigadier General Dato John Friedberger, on Tuesday [31 December].

The historic handover of command was marked by a short and simple parade on the polo field at the RBAF's Berakas Camp headquarters.

It came exactly two years to the day after the former British protectorate resumed full independence and as the RBAF entered its 25th anniversary year.

General Mohamed accepted the post with a pledge of loyalty on behalf of the entire armed forces and "to always protect the sovereignty and security of His Majesty's Government from all threats."

He thanked His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan and his Defence Minister father for their trust in his ability to lead the almost 4,000-strong RBAF.

General Mohamed also thanked General Friedberger for his sincere service and leadership.

General Friedberger, who commanded the RBAF for almost four years, will take over a senior staff officer's post with NATO's northern army group headquarters in West Germany.

His departure signified the end of an era which began 21 years ago with the appointment of the first British Commanding Officer of what was then called the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment Lieutenant Colonel D.M. Fletcher.

Before his appointment the regiment was commanded by a Malaysian officer.

General Friedberger was the seventh Briton to take command of Brunei's defence forces.

General Mohamed was one of the first men to join the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment and General Friedberger, in his handover speech, said it was fitting therefore that the Bruneian should become commander.

"In the two years since the [word indistinct] of full independence and sovereignty by Brunei, the RBAF has proved that it is fully competent to defend the nation and its people," he said.

He added that although he would be the last British commander, the British forces would continue to provide specialist help to the RBAF for some years by loaning officers.

General Mohamed, who is married with four children, returned from a high-level yearlong course at the Royal College of Defence Studies in London just before Christmas.

He joined the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment in December 1960 and was commissioned two years later from the Royal Military College, Sungei Besi, Malaysia.

He attended several courses in Britain and served with several sections and units of the RBAF.

General Mohamed was transferred to the First Battalion in 1975 and became deputy commander of the Brunei forces in 1980, a position he held until he was promoted to Brigadier General last year.

/6662
CSO: 4200/536

MINISTERS, COUNCILS COORDINATE ECONOMIC TARGETS

BK061520 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] The Economic Coordination Committee [SCC] of the Council of Ministers and executive committees of the state and divisional people's councils held a meeting at 0900 in the conference hall of the office of the Council of Ministers to discuss proposed targets for the fifth 4-year economic plan. The meeting was attended by U Maung Maung Kha, prime minister and chairman of the EEC; Thura U Tun Tin, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and finance; Thura U Kyaw Htin, deputy prime minister and minister of defense; ministers who are also EEC members; deputy ministers; chairmen of state and divisional people's council executive committees; heads of departments; and responsible officials.

In his address, Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha said the meeting was being held to coordinate with state and divisional people's councils the economic targets for the Fifth 4-Year Plan within the framework of the guidelines for that plan laid down at the Fifth Party Congress. The targets suggested by the state and divisional people's councils were thoroughly discussed at the primary level before they were submitted, and therefore these targets should be discussed with particular care at the central level.

Similar consultation and coordination were also made before the Third and the Fourth 4-Year Economic Plans were drafted. The coordination process, U Maung Maung Kha noted, is to ensure that development is achieved through a planned state economy in accordance with the provisions of the state constitution. He said systematic drafting of economic plans after thorough consultations at all levels has resulted in economic success and development.

He said the economic targets derived as a result of the process of consultation during which these targets were presented to state and divisional people's councils and submitted for thorough scrutiny and discussion by the central organs are practicable under the prevailing economic situation.

He said it would be necessary for states and divisions to discuss in detail measures which would lead to better production and procurement by the state of goods.

Later, the director general of the Planning Department explained the proposed economic targets for the Fifth 4-Year Plan, and the chairmen of state and divisional people's councils discussed their regional plans.

Next, in rely to the discussions by the state and divisional people's council chairmen, the deputy prime minister and minister of planning and finance as leader of the EEC members and ministers explained related matters.

In his concluding speech, the prime minister urged those present to exert collective efforts to ensure the proposed targets are realized.

The meeting concluded at 1600.

/8309
CSO: 4211/20

ECONOMICS MINISTER DISCUSSES DRAFT BUDGET

BK081226 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 8 Jan 86

[Text] Although the government in the fiscal year '86-'87 is to face a difficult situation, but [as heard] there will be no devaluation of the rupiah currency and fuel oil price hike, Coordinating Minister for Economics, Finance, and Industry Ali Wardhana has said.

Speaking on the draft state budget of 1986-1987, which was introduced by President Suharto before the House of Representatives yesterday, Minister Ali Wardhana said that in facing the coming fiscal year, Indonesia had a power, which could slighten the economic burden. He referred to the foreign exchange reserve, which approximately reached $6 thousand million. The amount, which totaled $19.6 thousand million, is the foreign exchange reserve from private banks are to be included, he said. [sentence as heard] The minister also reported the inflation rate in 1985, which stood only at 4.3 percent, coupled with the weakening of dollar rate.

The Indonesian economy made headway with the rice production reached 26.3 million tonnes in 1985. [sentence as heard] The rice stockpiling at present takes out 3 and a half million tonnes whereas in 1983 Indonesia imported 1.3 million tonnes of rice. According to theminister, this was the capital for Indonesia--that it could face the coming fiscal year with a more favorable situation compared with 1983.

/6662
CSO: 4200/534

'TALK' COLUMN CONTINUES CRITICISM OF THAI LEADERSHIP

More Attacks on Athit

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 15 Nov 85 p 3

['Talk': Athit--the One Who Suppresses the Democratic Rights of the Thai People]

[Text] On the morning of 14 November the British Broadcasting Corporation did a broadcast on the current turmoil in Thai politics.

According to Thai Radio on the same day the people in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, were exercising their right to cast ballots for the governor of the capital, which they thought was a significant step on the way to democratic rule. According to the BBC broadcast, a majority of the 10 candidates were members of political parties. However, there was an independent candidate who was supported by the RTA. The political parties that endorsed their candidates all spoke in unity of their aim to bring advancement to the people of the capital, Bangkok. However, Thai military circles attacked the domestic political system in Thailand, and in particular there was a speech by General Athit Kamlang-ek in which he condemned the politicians in Thailand as "doing nothing to help improve various projects but only quarreling among themselves." This made him a strong target for members of the Thai parliament and other [groups]. According to the BBC commentary on the morning of 14 November, one of the strong reactions to General Athit Kamlang-ek's speech was from a military official of the rank of general who had resigned because of a dispute with General Athit. He said that there was no political party that would betray the nation. He also added that there is still democracy only because of a strong political system. However, this does not work in Thailand because the military monopolizes the power. History shows that every 2 1/2 years there is a coup by the military in order to seize power from the democratic government. This could be the opposite of Mr Kamlang-ek's speech in which he said that "the military brings democracy to the people." Therefore, the candidates of the various political parties condemned General Athit for causing disunity within the country and for not understanding parliament. They also stated that the Thai armed forces would try to destroy democratic rule.

In fact, the political parties and the entire Thai people all clearly see that the Thai armed forces with General Athit Kamlang-ek as the RTA commander in chief and supreme commander are no better than other areas on the Thai political platform. He also creates tension and confusion by his following the arms race plan set by the American imperialists and carries out the plan of the American imperialists to expand military bases and to deploy the forces of the American imperialists in the Asian and Pacific regions. This was demonstrated clearly by recent U.S.-Thai joint military maneuvers called ("Cobra Globe 85") and assistance from the Pentagon to revive military bases in Southeast Asia, e.g., Thailand.

The BBC commentary gave the example of Kissinger, the former U.S. secretary of state, who recently visited Thailand and who shamelessly interfered in Thailand's domestic affairs. For example, he ordered Thai officials to get rid of General Kriangsak Chammanan, the former minister, because he was dangerous.

This is all we need to show that those who incite unrest within Thai society are those who destroy the democratic rights of the Thai people, e.g., the Thai reactionary military group that is only waiting for word from the imperialists and the international reactionaries who are their masters.

Post-Coup Prem-Athit Rivalries

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Nov 85 p 3

['Talk': Prem--Athit Military Rivalries]

[Text] On 20 October General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai prime minister, and General Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander and RTA commander in chief in Thailand, attended a meeting which summarized the outcome of "anti-Communists" in the military academy which was broadcast on the same day. However, this was only a scene to cover up the conflict within the Thai reactionary clique.

In the opening speech Prime Minister Prem began by saying, "the nation is sacred. It cannot be seized by force and it cannot be seized as individual property. Whoever [tries] to take it by force must be defeated and lose. This is because just power is the people's sovereignty.

The speech had not been finished when Athit Kamlang-ek's face became red because of his cruelty and shame. No one knows why. this speech must definitely be related to and slander the incident of the coup on 9 September, and it was probably aimed at beating the bullock to [spite the harrow].

Although Prime Minister Prem excused himself by saying that it was borrowed from a speech by a famous British scholar, the attendees, the Thai military officials who were the commanders of all the armed forces including the cabinet, all the provincial governors and the military committee of the Thai House of Representatives could all interpret whom it was that Prime Minister Prem was referring to.

Prime Minster Prem, who was nearly blackmailed, felt bad and seemed to be very angry. He spoke repeatedly to the masses after the 9 October incident and also in his meeting with Thai people abroad when he stopped in Hawaii on his way to attend the 40th session of the UN General Assembly about how sorry he was that the incident had occurred.

Following the 9 October coup the social situation in Thailand has become increasingly confused. The economy is steadily worsening. The problem of the price of rice for Thai farmers has still not been solved, and this has caused more headaches for the present Thai government. Not long ago, according to the 6 o'clock Thai Radio morning news, on 5 November a group of homeless Thai people who had been neglected by the government stormed in to sleep in a hotel and ignored the hotel personnel who tried to stop them by order of the hotel owner. They thought they had the right to sleep there because they were the nations's owners. There is much turmoil in Thai society today that is continuing to make news.

Within the armed forces themselves other leading military officials are not in agreement with Athit Kamlang-ek in everything. For example, there was the incident in the Sheraton Hotel in the Swedish capital Stockholm which disgraced the Thai culture and armed forces. More than 10 of the 22 military officials who went with him were displeased when Athit Kamlang-ek ordered the hotel to find women to serve them.

Upon arriving in Thailand after the failure of the 9 September coup, he published the White Book of the RTA which contained Athit's orders to suppress the coup and which was ordered printed across the continent in order to cover up who was really behind the coup. Of course, this was an insult to General Thienchai Sirisamphan who is almost retired and who was the actual commander on that day because at least Athit's techniques made [the people concerned to have nothing to show for themselves.]

However, according to the Thai newspaper SIAM RAT on 1 November General Athit Kamlang-ek held a dinner party in which high ranking military officials took part. In truth this dinner party was meant to suppress those who were displeased with what he had done for which they could try to blackmail him. It was also to persuade them and to look for support because he had just been struck in the war of words by Prime Minister Prem.

Protracted Crisis Seen

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 25 Nov 85 p 3

[Text] The column "Athit Sing Duang" in the Thai magazine LENG KHAO No 114 in mid-November described his concerns over the fate of Thailand today in a prologue by saying "the country probably will not become any better while Prem is still prime minister because Prem is good at only one thing, and that is to save himself. This is unfortunate for the country because the longer Prem stays, the more the survivability of the nation decreases accordingly.

In the more than 4 years that he has been in this position there have been four cabinet [changes] and two coups to overthrow him. Prem is still the prime minister. His achievements are debt, inflation, unemployment, and confusion in Thai society.

The military acts more superior than other [departments], especially in the era when General Athit Kamlang-ek is the RTA commander in chief and the supreme commander when it is more like he is the commander of the government operations. The military requested a budget of 12 billion baht to buy F16 warplanes while there are still much more-needed expenses for improving the standard of living of the Thai people. However, the Thai government was forced to approve it even though it has no money. This was because the head of the Thai government himself is also a military official and because of the military dictatorship that has been permemating Thai politics for almost half a century. But when the people complained of being neglected, especially with regard to the problem of the price of rice for farmers and the unemployed textile factory workers because of the "Jenkins Bill" that limits textiles, including Thai textiles, the Thai government went to ask for sympathy from the United States which is its "great friend," and what it got was words of comfort.

From this lesson LENG KHAO also concluded the same thing when it said, "as for the prime minister himself, he can only sit with a pale face and show repsonsibility for nothing. Later he sat in front of the TV camera, ground his teeth and asked for sympathy from the people, and then asked radio stations to repeat the broadcast again and again" until their ears ached. It was done as if the Thai people were deaf. Another way to ask for sympathy is to appear at important ceremonies singing so he can forget his troubles.

It is regretable that it did not pay off when the Thai prime minister went as chairman to the closing ceremony for a university sports match early this month. There was an incident that will be recorded in the political history of Thailand. According to an official Thai news source, a sixth-year university student forced his way in and hit the prime minister in the face, which bloodied him and caused him to have five stitches. However, the Thai weekly magazine SIAM RAT on Sunday 17 November questioned how the youth could approach the prime minister because he was sitting in the middle of security guards and there were 40 policemen around him.

Regardless of what the news media in Thailand report on the condition of the wrongdoer, when we examine the facts mentioned above it cannot be denied that it was one of the incidents in the political crisis of Thailand today, and no one knows how long it will drag on.

Athit Corruption Seen

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Nov 85 p 3

['Talk': It is Time for the Countdown for Athit from Politics]

[Text] When Athit Kamlang-ek, the supreme commander and the RTA commander-in-chief of Thailand tried to extend the date for his retirement which was last April, he was so worried that he could hardly sit. There was no social platform in Thailand that could not do without him, and truly speaking he did it to ask for sympathy. The Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda had to approve it against his will (since when his turn comes [does his worst]).

Since the day his term was extended and close to the new retirement date, these two Thai leaders have not really gotten along. There was a rumor of the reason for the recent 9 September coup to overthrow the prime minister. There was another rumor that the reason Athit Kamlang-ek went to Sweden was because he was not satisfied with sharing the post--"prime minister." Evidence in confirmation of this was when Prime Minister Prem returned from attending the 40th session of the UN General Assembly, the General Athit Kamlang-ek welcomed him with a worried look. Another occasion was the decoration of ranks for Thai soldiers and police which was televised on 23 October, when they both seemed not to care for each other.

Although there have been conflicts between them, Prem is still prime minister of Thailand. As the Thai magazine SOO ANAKOT No 241 of Sunday 3 October concluded, "the most relaxed man is probably Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda because he has gone through a great deal of suffering on 9 September, and now he is above all conflict.

On the other hand, it is time for Athit Kamlang-ek to back down in Thai politics. When we look back at when he was struggling to extend his term we see him involved in everything until the Thai mass media referred to him as "Athit is wherever there is trouble." For example, there is the case of Mrs Chamoi's oil shares which Thai society clearly knew was an act of deception. There was nothing else except money. Many hundreds of millions of baht were hidden here and there. Athit Kamlang-ek thought that "if he could do it the government should not interfere with it," (based on what Athit said at the Loy Krathong festival in 1984 which was printed in the mid-October issue of SOO ANAKOT). This is because he had an interest in the affair. There was also a rumor that when Athit went to the United States early this year when there was an announcement of the [lowering] of the Thai baht, it was to take more than 10 million baht from Mrs Chamoi's shares which he felt were not safe, and to put it in a U.S. bank instead.

This was chaos. Recently, even though Athit Kamlang-ek has been busier with military affairs than other, his love affair in Stockholm (Sweden) last September which disgraced the Tahi Army and Thai culture and has not yet receded has caused political and military circles and the general public in Thailand to lose faith in him. As a result, Athit Kamlang-ek has now fallen into a situation where "it is time to back down from politics."

Thais Have Territorial Designs

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 20 Nov 85 pp 2, 3

['Talk': Deception]

[Text] The Lao literary masterpiece "Siang Miang" in general is about the struggle between the classes of people for the writer of that era. "Siang Miang" is not the only literary masterpiece in Lao on the fight between classes, and others are, for example, "Kam Pha", (the Orphan), "Phi Noi," (Little Ghost), "Sang Sinsai," etc. At first "Siang Miang" appears to be a conflict between classes, but when we look a bit more closely Siang Miang, the main character, is really a criminal and a liar. Even so, the evaluation as such may not agree with the goal. The reason I am speaking about literature is not to criticize Lao literature, but only to point out the deception of Siang Miang toward Phaya (a nobleman), which is no different than the Thai power-holding clique today.

We should review the behavior of the Siamese reactionaries in the past and the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries at the present time to see whether or not their actions have anything in common with Siang Miang's deception.

In the 14th century Laos became the independent kingdom of Lansang. The kingdom of Lansang and the kingdom of Khme were always the targets for the cruel and clever invasions and expansion plans of the Siamese reactionaries. In the 18th century Chao Taksin, the Siamese king of Chinese lineage, conducted a cruel war and invaded and seized the kingdom of Lansang for 115 years (1778-1893). In 1827-28 the Siamese power holders used military force to attack Vientiane twice and to suppress the resistance and uprising of the people in Langang under the command of Chao Anou. They burned and destroyed Vientiane Captial, and stole valuable property from Vientiane including Ph Keo Molikot (the statue of the Emerald Buddha). After that, Vientiane was a deserted city. (Excerpt from a book of facts about Thai-Lao relations). Many Lao chronicles recorded the fight of the people in Vientiane: "the Chao Anou's soldiers who were commanded by Chao Latsavong rose up and liberated the land of Laos as far as the city of Korat, but they were defeated by the Siamese Army. (Here the chronicle stated that they were tricked by women). Later, Chao Anou and some soldiers fled to Vietnam. Because of his partriotic and strong desire to restore the nation, he returned to Vientiane with only 1,000 soldiers while the Siamese army was still occupying Lansang. When he reached Vientiane and saw the Monument of [Vientiane Suppression] (now changed to be the monument for [Haw Tribes suppression] in Sichiangmai District, Nongkhai Privince), he was very angry and led more than 1,000 soldiers to attack the Siamese army at night. The Lao army drove the Siamese army to Nong Buaolamphoo. He cut off the Thai commander's knee, but was shot by the Thai side while he was about to repeat it again with his sword. The Lao soldiers brought him back to Vientiane. After that Laos fell completely under Siam. When we regained our independence the Thai reactionaries continued to say that they lost the [territory on the Lao side]. The bullies were lying. The case when the Thai reactionaries sent their troops to seize the three Lao villagtes in Sayaboury Province clearly revealed their greed and their policy to expand their territory and power which they have continued to exercise.

The same thing has happened along the Thai border on the Cambodian side. They have been sending their troops in to incite against the peace and happiness of the Cambodian people. But When their troops invaded Cambodian territory, they distorted and blamed Cambodia and Vietnam as invaders. It was Prasong

Sounsiri, secretary general of the Thai National Security Council, who said "Vietnamese troops have invaded Thai territory." To this General Athit Kamlang-ek, however, confessed specifically on 3-5 November 1985 that Thai troops did invade the Cambodian border, causing three Thai soldiers to die. It could have happened because they did not have good knowledge of the physical features of the land.

The words of these two people show us that the Thai power-holding clique has always been deceptive. When they were confronted with the undeniable evidence they cried out for humanity and other reasons. In present-day Thailand,like the former Siam, territorial expansion is still maintained by the Thai power-holding clique.

In its deception the Thai power-holding clique today is not only a direct enemy of the three countries in Indochina in a determined way, but also with other neighboring countries which they continously threaten and provoke wars of aggression. For example, in the inland and coastal areas next to Burma and Malaysia, there is continuing news every day about [natural] resources being smuggled out: "Thai fishermen sneaked in to fish in the waters of Malaysia, Burma, Vietnam and Cambodia." Pirates from Thailand rob other boats passing by from other countries. Now the Thai power-holding clique is raising a new issue about Vietnamese troops attacking refugees on Thai territory. This is an old trick which they are using to cover up their own wrongdoing, but it cannot be kept from the Thai people and the peace-and justice-loving peoples all over the world.

The problem that worries the Thai people now is the issue fabricated by the Thai power-holding clique that "the confusion in the area is because of Vietnam." The truth is that all of the confusion occurring in Thailand today has come from the willingness of the Thai power-holding clique to become the slaves of the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists and the American imperialists. Then there came many internal conflicts, and finally a continuous explosion of protests. The 9 September coup resulted from internal conflicts in Thailand itself. The Thai power-holding clique is still unable to solve this problem.

The Thai economy is confusing today because the Thai power clique is making its foreign policy comply with the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists and the American imperialists. The USSR meant well and offered to help, but its offer was rejected but the power-holding clique which was the immediate minion of Beijing and Washington. We have recently printed the fact that this issue has been seriously debated in Thailand.

According to calculations by the Thai paper THAN SETHA KIT, by the end of 1985 Thailand will have lost 30,000 million baht in trade with foreign countries. Last year it was only 8,000 baht. Debt will increase to over 70,000 million baht, and unemployoment will increase over 300,000." The Thai power-holding clique still has found no way to ease the hardship of the people of the country. The longer it continues the more the debt and conclusion will increase, and cause more problems for the people.

As long as the Thai power clique continues to follow Chinese expansionism and hegemonism and the war thirstiness of the American imperialists they will never find a better way out. What is worse is that the confusing situation in the area will remain dark forever.

9884/13068
CSO: 4206/32

MALAYSIA

PAPERS COMMENT ON END OF MCA INFIGHTING

Leaders', Party's Tasks Outlined

Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 26 Nov 85 p 8

[Text] Mr Tan Koon Swan's victory as well as those of his people who were competing for various positions in the MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association], announced yesterday, shows that his leadership has received the unanimous support of the party's members. He and his people, in general, obtained more than 70 percent of the votes.

The harvesting of this many votes offers Mr Tan an easy way to revive unity in the MCA which became entangled in a crisis 20 months ago. His ability to create unity is better demonstrated by Mr Tan's personal consideration of taking Mr Neo Yee Pan, who was his opponent, and Datuk Mak Hon Kam into the MCA Central Committee.

Including these two MCA members in the Central Committee as proposed would not create factions in the MCA governing body nor the chance that their supporters would operate outside the organization to establish a new party as is being discussed.

After he does this, Mr Tan must also be able to lead MCA members toward stabilizing the party's authority which political observers in this country feel has been eroded since the MCA crisis.

MCA cooperation with members of the National Front will be no problem because there is a close feeling of unity in that party vis-a-vis its relations with the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] in particular, and the UMNO, of course, will become stronger for leading this country if the MCA settles the political problems that exist in its household.

Therefore, MCA members should be aware that their party's strength is founded on unity among the members of the party itself. It is totally unwise for any leader in that party wrongly to oppose UMNO leaders when dissension exists in his own party.

Meanwhile, compromise is needed by the National Front to obtain cooperation. Each leader of a component party must realize that mass support from its members does not compel him to press for things that make no sense.

While many democratic nations govern through a mix of political parties, Malaysia's governing pattern is different. This means that the leadership in this country requires compromise and understanding of the problems of ethnic groups because political strength in this country is based on how far the government is able to fulfill the expectations and dreams of a society made up of countless ethnic groups.

As a partner in politics since independence, the MCA leadership is aware of this fact and will better understand how to form a partnership to create the desired harmony.

New Opportunities for Change

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 26 Nov 85 p 10

[Text] The MCA crisis, which is recorded as the longest and perhaps the most acrimonious party crisis in the history of this country, has finally ended. The delegates to the party meeting held yesterday made an incontrovertibly difficult decision since they granted a huge victory to Mr Tan Koon Swan and his associates. Mr Tan defeated the vice president, Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan, by a majority of 1,906 votes--receiving the biggest percentage majority ever obtained by an MCA president. With such a big victory, it is evident that the MCA delegates are no longer, after 20 months of wrangling, pondering about who is the most suitable person to lead that party.

We congratulate Mr Tan, his associates, and his supporters. At the same time we also hope they use this victory and the opportunities offered them to the best advantage. We also would like to say, "Well done!" to the MCA Provisional Committee which tried so hard to make last night's election possible, especially to its chairman, Mr Ghafar Baba, who acted as though he did not know the meaning of the word, defeat. If it is really sincere, the new MCA leadership can make their shining victory a most strong foundation for keeping the promises they made to the MCA members, to the leaders of the National Front, and to the country.

On the other hand, if they are like petty leaders who want to take revenge, Mr Tan and his associates could use this victory to oust their detractors from the party. However, we hope there is no such tendency any longer in the MCA. Rather, we are convinced that the MCA leaders have learned something positive from this marathon crisis and will arise from it as mature and healthy leaders. Mr Tan and the new MCA leadership front apparently will have acknowledged the importance of compromise if they invite Datuk Dr Neo and Datuk Mak Hon Kam to join the MCA Central Committee. Mr Tan also asked MCA members to set aside memories of the crisis and try to rebuild the party.

With such a big victory, Mr Tan should not face any problems in reuniting the MCA as Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam hoped when he congratulated Mr Tan on his victory. However, before he can expect the MCA members to forget their animosity and turn over a new leaf to rebuild the party, Mr Tan and his associates must lead the way. It is meaningless for them to embrace their confirmed enemies in front of the camera or make statements to the newspapers about peace in their camp if, underneath it all, they are still filled with distrust.

Nevertheless, we admit that the task which faces Mr Tan and his associates in the Central Committee is not an easy one. First of all, they must convince MCA members, especially supporters of the Datuk Dr Neo and Datuk Mak faction, that there is no enmity against them. Then, they must also convince party members that they are capable of leadership. Finally, they must prove to the National Front that the MCA is still a party made up of Chinese experienced with the problems of this country. The MCA must try harder than any other party and also must try harder in the National Front because they have given almost no support to the National Front for 20 months. If they did provide support, it was very little. On the other hand, it would not be outrageous if we said it was the National Front that saved the MCA.

The task before Mr Tan is fearsome and pressing with the debates now going on about the coming general election. In the present politico-economic climate, the National Front needs the support of each of its component parties more than it has in the past. The National Front's strength must come from its member parties and not the other way around. However, if a component party is weak, it not only cannot provide support to the mother organization but also becomes a burden to it. The National Front cannot continue to support weak parties or try to act judiciously toward them when the time comes to allocate seats in the election. This message must be sent home to the MCA and other component parties that face internal problems.

6804
CSO: 4213/63

INDONESIAN IMMIGRANTS USE FALSE ADMISSION PAPERS

BK111125 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 25 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tuesday [24 December]--The Immigration Department today revealed that some 10,000 illegal Indonesian immigrants have used false temporary admission papers enabling them to stay here. The admission papers are said to have been issued by the Malaysian Immigration Welfare Services and Sports Council.

However, a spokesman denied that the council was involved in this activity. He believed that several certain groups were involved, but the immigration authorities have not yet detected their activity.

He said that the Malaysian Immigration Welfare Services and Sports Council did not in fact issue the temporary admission papers possessed by the Indonesian citizens who had been arrested and repatriated. "The council is only in charge of welfare services and sport activities for the department and is not helping foreign citizens," he said.

The report said that every foreign citizen wishing to possess an admission paper should pay 450 ringgit.

In a case, a man introducing himself as a policeman demanded 200 ringgit and a picture from a foreign citizen wishing to have a temporary visa. Two days later, the man claiming to be a policeman came with an admission paper and took another 250 ringgit from him.

The paper was said to have been signed by a senior officer of the Immigration Department. The case was uncovered when his companions using such admission papers were arrested and repatriated.

/9604
CSO: 4213/73

SUSPECT SRI LANKAN TEA IMPORTS TESTED

HK090605 Hong Kong AFP in English 0537 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 9 Jan (AFP)--Malaysia is testing tea imported from Sri Lanka following reports that tea shipments had been poisoned by separatist rebels, a health department official said today.

(Reports from Sydney had said that a leading Australian merchant suspended imports of Sri Lankan tea following the allegations.)

The Director of Health Services, Dr. Abdullah Abdul Rahman, said the Chemistry Department was conducting tests to determine whether the imported tea contained potassium cyanide as alleged by the Sri Lankan Tamil rebels.

Dr. Abdullah said his department had specially assigned men at Port Kelang and Penang to take tea samples and conduct tests.

He said local tea importers had promised not to release any tea, pending the outcome of the tests.

Meanwhile, the acting Sri Lankan High Commissioner here, G.S. Munasinghe, said his government considered the threats as a "hoax" although all necessary precautions had been taken.

/8309
CSO: 4200/525

MALAYSIA

FOR BETTER RELATIONS, CHANGED PRC ATTITUDE NEEDED

Kuala Lumpur BERITA MINGGU in Malay 17 Nov 85 p 10

[Editorial: "China's Attitude To Determine Which Form Relations Will Take"]

[Text] Malaysia's relations with China will not be the same as its relations with other countries, or, in other words, they will not be changed to people-to-people relations if China maintains its attitude of "saying one thing and doing another." Time after time Malaysia has spoken of the need for better relations with China, but no reaction has been forthcoming from that country. China has provided no proof that it adheres to the principle of mutual respect for the sovereignty of nations in its relations with Malaysia. Furthermore, its attitude has not changed, namely, that in accord with the relations established in 1974, it would give consideration to Malaysia's concern about and distrust of China.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has frequently voiced his views on China's attitude toward relations with Malaysia. Nevertheless, China's leaders seem to have no understanding of Malaysia's sensitivity on this issue. The obstacle to better relations is obvious, namely, China's continued support, especially that of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), to the banned Malaysian Communist Party (PKM). Like any other nation, Malaysia cannot establish better relations with China as long as it maintains a relationship with a party that wants to overthrow the Malaysian government by force. China's reluctance to sever these relations with the PKM, whether in the form of moral or material support, is very much regretted not only by Malaysia but by other nations in Southeast ASia that await a changed attitude on the part of China before opening diplomatic relations with that country.

Like Malaysia, China should take a more pragmatic approach to its external relations. Malaysia;s act, as the first Southeast Asian nation to establish relations with China proves its deep desire to be on good terms with all nations regardless of their ideologies. Malaysia's desire, which also is the desire of other nations in this region, should be respected by China if it is really sincere in its relations with the nations of this region. China should not maintain its dynastic traditions but shoulduse the facts of history rather than concern and distrust as the motivating force for establishing free relations.

For nations in Southeast Asia, China will continue to be an important factor in determining the balance of power in this region. China can play a very important role especially for making this region a free, peaceful, and neutral region. Because of its important role, China should set itself up as a neighbor that is respected and not as an associate to be feared. China must change its attitude to clean up the image nations of this region hold of it. As Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said, Malaysia has repeatedly clarified its desire and stand on better relations, so it rests with the Chinese leaders to prove that their attitude has changed.

As is known, the Joint Statement signed by both nations when diplomatic relations were established in 1974 clearly sets forth the standpoints of both sides. China promised it would not interfere in Malaysia's domestic affairs, which implies that it would not support the PKM. China also promised it would not recognize dual citizenship, and each visit of a Malaysian citizen to China would have to be approved by Kuala Lumpur. Nevertheless, these promises have not been kept, and the agreement clearly has been violated. Other than admitting that, for reasons of self-respect, the CCP could not abandon the PKM, China has also issued special tourist visas to Malaysian citizens traveling to China through Hong Kong.

Added to the concern which derives from these ethnic and ideological ties to China is the concern that China may become a big, threatening power. Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir has raised this concern several times. According to the prime minister, China's modernization and the strengthening of its army with modern equipment from the United States will enable China to become a big power that would threaten the security of this region and the international community. In view of the fact that China continually changes course, it is not inconceivable that China will test this new strength. This is dangerous and causes concern which can only be erased by China itself. For Malaysia and also for Southeast Asian nations, any written or verbal promise made by China's leaders is meaningless and, further, the steps China has taken in the past provide no proof that such promises would be kept.

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CSO: 4213/63

EDITORIAL PRAISES LIFTING OF LECTURES BAN

BK191337 Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 19 Dec 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Freedom To Give Political Lectures"]

[Text] When the government banned political lectures in six states following the tragedy in Memali, Baling last month, some groups, especially the opposition, felt that the ban would be enforced for quite a long time. In view of that, there were those who said that the government used the bloody incident which claimed 18 lives as an excuse to suppress activities of opposition parties.

Not many people believed the authorities would lift the ban within such a short time. However, after the deputy prime minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, announced in Sungai Petani yesterday that the ban on political lectures since 19 November in Kedah, Kelantan, Terengganu, North Perak, Penang, and Perlis had been lifted after only a month, it is clear that the action was intended to calm down the situation rather than to deny anyone's right to hold political lectures.

It is the government's responsibility to allow the people in the affected states to return to normal life after the situation following the Memali incident had been successfully put under control to prevent the incident from spreading, and not to allow certain groups to fan the emotions of the people.

The liberal and open concept of government as espoused by Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, does not want to deny the right of any group to give lectures as the opposition claims. Although the right has been restored, it is hoped that groups giving political lectures will be more responsible.

That responsibility should be shown in various ways. This could be done by downplaying subjects that can divide or confuse the people with emotional issues just for the sake of gaining applause.

On the other hand, it cannot be denied that the government should also play a more effective role in warding off whatever accusations or slanders are made by the opposition against the government and its policies. If the people are confident that the claims made by the opposition are not true, the government need not worry about the political lectues aimed at discrediting the government.

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CSO: 4213/73

VOMD WANTS MORE OPPOSITION IN ASSEMBLIES

BK101102 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Article in SULUH RAKYAT, Malay Nationalist Revolutionary Party of Malaya's Information Department organ, entitled: "Struggle So That More Oppositionists Participate in Parliament and State Assemblies"]

[Text] We said in an article--entitled Struggle for Democracy, Eradicate Poverty--in the 1985 July-August SULUH RAKYAT, our party's official organ, that to improve the people's living standards and eradicate poverty, there should be a democratic government and parliament that caters to the needs and interests of the people. As a result, we are happy to acknowledge that a seminar held in February last year was attended by 13 parties and social organizations to discuss the poverty situation. Also, Aliran Reform Movement organized a meeting attended by six parties and eight social organizations on 16 July to discuss parliamentary democracy in our country.

These meetings showed that all parties and social organizations in our country that are looking out for the country's future and the people's welfare, feel that poverty and the parliamentary democracy is currently in a very serious situation. We wish to further lay out our stand on these issues.

1. What is the main goal when a country has a parliamentary democracy? By going back to the main root of this question, its main objectives is to further improve the country's economy, to improve the people's living standards, and to eradicate poverty. If the objective is not achieved, then this clearly shows that parliamentary democracy is practiced in that country in name only and that it is totally meaningless. In all the 28 years since our country gained independence, what role has our country's parliamentary democracy played, as expected by the people? Has it achieved its economic goals of widening the country's economy, improving the people's living standards, and eradicating poverty? Facts reveal that most people are still living below the poverty line. The parliament, which is managed by the Kuala Lumpur regime, has not fulfilled the people's wants and urgent needs to overcome poverty. On the contrary, the parliament is only interested in creating a handful of millionaires. To achieve this, it allowed a handful of powerful bureaucrats to plunder

the country's wealth, to extravagantly spend the country's money, and has become untrustworthy as well as corrupt. The parliament did not want to take positive action in the shameful BMF [Bumiputera Malaysia Finance] loan scandal, which involved up to 2,500 million ringgit. All these facts prove that the Kuala Lumpur parliament is a parliament that only represents the powerful bureaucrats and their capitalist counterparts. It is an autocratic and dictatorial parliament that serves only the powerful bureaucrats and capitalists. These people are only a minority in our population.

2. Let us now observe how the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] leadership clique and the Kuala Lumpur government abused parliamentary democracy. In 1969, as a result of the increasing strength of the opposition parties, it posed a (?threat) to the dictatorial Kuala Lumpur regime. The late deputy prime minister, Tun Abdul Razak, then created the 13 May incident. With the excuse of protecting national security, he dissolved the constitutional parliament and imposed martial law, maintaining leadership for 20 months. Following this, by taking advantage of the situation by imposing martial law, Tun Abdul Razak got rid of Tunku Abdul Rahman, became prime minister, usurped the UMNO Executive Council's and the government's powers.

In 1976, in order to grab the Sabah government's power, the Kuala Lumpur regime created chaos within the ruling Sabah party through conspiracy and tricks and established the Berjaya Party under its control. As a result, the rightful Sabah government was toppled by the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique and replaced it with Berjaya Party. In 1977, the Kuala Lumpur government grabbed power in Kelantan state through conspiracy and tricks. Their method, among other things, was to create chaos in that state and then declare a state of emergency. Through this, it successfully ousted PAS [Pan Malaysian Islamic Party] from the state government while grabbing power in the state.

In the Padang Terap by-elections last January, the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique once again destroyed the clean, democratic, and fair principle to be adhered to in any general elections. In order to oust PAS in the by-election, long before the election began the Kuala Lumpur government abused its power by conducting a smear campaign against PAS, thus weakening PAS's stand in the election. For example, last July, the government arrested PAS (?officials) and charged them under the Internal Security Act [ISA].

In August, the government banned political mass gatherings in Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, and Terengganu. In November, the government issued a white paper slandering PAS and others. In a by-election this January, the government treacherously sabotaged PAS-organized mass gatherings and mobilized thugs to incite clashes and kill or injure PAS members and supporters. The government used its power to make promises to and intimidate voters, and adopted mass money politics and other measures. After the by-election, the government arrested PAS legal counselor Suhaimi Said.

The Sabah state parliamentary elections in April this year was another conspicuous example of how the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique had trampled on parliamentary democracy. In view of the increasingly shaky power of the Berjaya Party—a Barisan Nasional component party in Sabah--the Kuala Lumpur government perpetrated a political plot to hold early elections for the Sabah State Legislative Assembly in April this year. Some 2,000 people, including Mahathir, Muszltgwtam, Kuala Lumpur government ministers, and other Barisan Nasional leaders, rushed to Sabah to campaign for the Berjaya Party. By using its power, the Barisan Nasional made various promises to voters to win their support while at the same time continuing to intimidate them and slander the opposition parties, saying they were inciting anti-Malaysian sentiments. Later, it threatened to hold opposition parties responsible for any possible riots during the elections. However, things did not go as the Kuala Lumpur government leaders had planned. The elections ended in an overwhelming victory for the opposition Sabah United Party [PBS] and a serious defeat for the ruling Berjaya Party. Unwilling to accept the failure, the Barisan Nasional leaders encouraged the Berjaya Party and the United Sabah National Organization [USNO] to collude and plot to seize power in Sabah illegally. However, the plot was exposed. Thus, their plan failed.

Despite the voters' mandate, the legitimate PBS state has been facing problems created by the Kuala Lumpur clique. Under the dictatorial rule of the Kuala Lumpur regime, the rights of opposition parliament members are violated. Their activities are restricted. They are unable to play their role in controlling the government. The public knows all these facts. The Kuala Lumpur government tried to avoid parliamentary discussions for and turned the people's attention away from the important 1983 constitutional amendment bill issue. So far, Parliament has taken no action against the big Bumiputera Malaysia Finance [BMF] scandal involving 2.5 billion ringgit, despite the endless demands by opposition members that Parliament conduct an inquiry into and find a serious solution to it.

The Kuala Lumpur regime is trampling on parliamentary democracy in our country by, among other things, violating the people's basic and democratic rights. The Internal Security Act allows the government to misuse power arbitrarily to beat opposition parties and violate the personal freedom of citizens without legal restrictions. The Kuala Lumpur government even detained capable leaders recognized by the people of all races, such as the late Dr Burhanuddin and the late Ahmad Bustamam, for a long period on subversion charges under the ISA. In addition, the Kuala Lumpur government has used the Parliament it controls to enact many antipeople and antidemocratic laws, such as the Labor Act, the Social Security Services Act, the Land Act, the Fishery Act, the University and College Act, the Printing and Publications Act, the Agitation Act, and other acts. Thus, the freedom of citizens to earn a living, practice religious beliefs, establish unions, conduct academic studies, speak, and even read publications has been violated.

3. The people are facing another general election in our country. All patriotic and democratic parties, organizations, and leaders are actively preparing for the election to field more opposition candidates with a view to increasing the power of the patriotic and democratic forces in Parliament and in state legislative assemblies. Barisan Nasional represents the big bureaucrats and capitalists. Barisan Nasional, which has antipeople and antidemocratic characteristics, will definitely preserve its dictatorial rule stubbornly in the interests of a handful of people. All patriotic and democratic parties, organizations, and leaders should not expect the Kuala Lumpur government to honor just, democratic, and honest principles in elections. Moreover, they must be vigilant against its plots and intrigues before, during, and after the elections. For example, the regime will arrest opposition leaders under the ISA to weaken the power of opposition parties in elections. The regime will double its efforts to sabotage mass gatherings organized by opposition parties, mobilize thugs to incite clashes, incite riots after elections if opposition parties win in some states, declare a state of emergency, and seize power from opposition parties in states.

We call on all patriotic and democratic parties, organizations, and leaders to unite, mobilize the public and all races, firmly oppose and foil the Barisan Nasional government's plot to sabotage the just, democratic, and honest principles during the coming general election, and struggle to achieve better gains during the election.

/9604
CSO: 4213/73

WEEKLY: NPA IS 'ONLY HOPE' AGAINST MARCOS

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 31 Dec 85-6 Jan 86 p 7

[Commentary by Richie Benavides: "The Only Opposition"]

[Text] That political power grows out of the barrel of a gun had never been more true than the political joust we are feasting on this season. Clearly, the opposition may rake in the crowds, they may even get voted into the coveted positions, but can they win?

The painful realities of today's political scenario show that, while a people's power may throw overwhelming support for the Aquino-Laurel ticket, the political machinery for transforming this support into a winner is nowhere near the grasp of the popular opposition. This is the giant machinery of gold, guns and goons.

Already, the government money printing press has begun to flood the economy with new bills. No matter how many denials and official statements may emanate from the KBL, it cannot be denied that the bonuses given government employes come from government funds and budgets. For a government that has constantly claimed being strapped for cash and assorted funds to now declare a bonus can only mean that this is, indeed, election booty.

What is painful is that the hordes of government employes now recipients of this bounty have done nothing extraordinary to deserve any additional incentive. It has been common knowledge that a government slot is open only to close relatives, cronies, fans and loyal servants--of the President and his policies. The ordinary taxpayer, the one who got laid off when his private firm retrenched does not only get no bonus. He's even booted out of job on Christmas.

And it will be earth-shaking if we hear of government-sponsored civil servant who do their duty well. Isn't the civil service the center of government graft and corruption? And because elections draw near, these very same scalawags must get their just reward for loyalty to the President.

The display of military might, the awesome power of a commander-in-chief going to be pitted against a tandem who cannot even think of security matters--saddled as they are with the basic problem of raising enough funds to sustain a stumping sortie. But when the current KBL god goes a-stumping, he is on Air Force One, tightly secured by hordes of government-funded military personnel, full air-time on government-funded television and radio.

And someone has the gall to hope for "honest, clean and free elections?"

Marcos is way beyond his opponents in that he controls the political machinery totally. He controls the cheating machinery, the printing presses, the media, even the basic laws and rules of the game. At any point when he feels he does not need a mandate or a covenant, he has the only firepower to sow terror, murder and mayhem and then blame, conveniently, the so-called communists and insurgents.

As in 1972, he only has to blow up the car of one of his ministers and declare a state of emergency, the tired old line that the communists are at it again, will be the main excuse. Welcome back, martial law, as if it ever left us.

The only hope of toppling the Marcos machinery lies in the organization which can approximate, if not match, his current firepower. To date, only the left-leaning New People's Army can lay claim to this, but even their resources are dwarfed by the awesome killing machine in the hands of Marcos. What is going for the NPA is the mass support they have gained, courtesy of the exploitation engendered by 20 years of Marcos' rule.

When a people's economic survival is laid down the line, they hang on to even the sharpest sword that promises them redemption. And thanks to Marcos and his IMF-World Bank funded government programs, the economic life of this nation has gone below subsistence levels--at least for the majority: the laid-off factory workers, the retrenched office workers, the slain and befuddled overseas workers, the miners, the national minorities driven out of their forest homes, the vast majority of urban poor, of farmhands, the starving sacadas of Negros, and the dispossessed coconut workers.

All of those who have been hit by economic depression feel that the campaign slogans ring hollow, that the promises can only bring more misery. For while a tentative prosperity may be felt with the abundance of campaign funds, they know that beyond the ballot, only the bullet will save them. They either get killed by stray bullets in strafing operations, or they kill to survive.

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CSO: 4200/540

OBSERVERS PREDICT OPPOSITION WIN IN DAVAO

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 9-15 Dec 85 pp 1, 7

[Text] President Marcos will lose in Davao City in the February 7, 1986 snap presidential elections.

This is the prediction of political observers here.

These observers based their prediction on the poor performance of Pres Marcos when he ran for reelection in 1981. He was challenged by former defense Secretary Alejo Santos and former Congressman Bartolome Cabangbang, both dead now.

In that election, the observers added, the President could hardly defeat Cabangbang in Davao City.

Per Comelec records, Marcos only garnered 113,000 votes against Cabangbang's 92,000.

President Marcos' poor showing happened despite a decidedly lopsided contest against Cabangbang, whom many dictators rediculed, rightly or wrongly, as a near nuisance candidate, what with his Philippine statehood program.

At the time, local KBL and Nacionalista leaders in Davao City combined forces to campaign for Marcos.

Then KBL regional chairman Antonio O. Floirendo and now KBL Region XI chief Alejandro D. Almendras forgot differences to campaign for their common boss. Newly installed Mayor Elias B. Lopez and deposed Mayor Luis T. Santos briefly kissed and made up to work for Marcos. To back them up were Assemblyman Manual M. Garcia, then Assemblywoman Felicidad C. Santos, Vice Mayor Cornelio P. Maskarino, all Nacionalista councilors, all KBL councilors and more than a hundred barangay captains. Their combined political forces against Cabangbang who was in Davao City only for a total of three days, selling his statehood idea. The late Cabangbang almost leaked the group without campaigners, without propaganda, without sample ballots, without a machinery and without logistics in an election when Marcos was perhaps three to four times more popular than now and at the time when many oppositionists opted for boycott.

The observers said that with President Marcos' unpopularity now and the much improved strength of the local opposition groups, there is no doubt the President will lose in Davao City in the snap elections. In a clean and honest election, that is, the observers qualified.

The fact that Almendras is now the KBL regional chairman will not help the President any, according to the same observers. They doubted the vote-getting capability of Almendras, who they said, even had a hard time winning a reelection bid in Davao del Sur, supposedly his bailiwick. The former senator was a poor second to PDP-Laban's Douglas Ra. Cagas, his nephew.

Aside from Almendras' "weak leadership" as negative factor in the Presidential polls, there is also the combined force of such local Oppositionists as MP Zafiro Respicio, human rights fighter Prospero "Boy" Nograles, UNIDO regional chairman, former Mayor Santos and Silvestre Bello III of Bayan to reckon with, the observers concluded.

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BAGUIO COLUMNIST: MARCOS WILL BOW TO POLL OUTCOME

Baguio City THE GOLD ORE in English 14 Dec 85 p 9

["Counterpoint" column by Peppot L. Ilagan: "Oplan Pisces 1986"]

[Text] Most Marcos-watchers anchor analysis and prediction on worst case scenarios. Twenty years of "crisis leadership" has instilled a unique sort (Filipino?) of tunnel vision that induces the searcher for the light at the end of the tunnel to instead focus on the darkest parts and blindest turns. This is why pessimism dampens the holding of snap elections as "the last hope for democracy" in our country.

The constitutionality of the polls, the legalists predict, affords Mr Marcos a fork in the trial he is blazing. If the Supreme Court rules the snap polls unconstitutional, Mr Marcos stays in power until 1987, giving him time to refurbish whatever may be lacking to insure his perpetuation in power. If the justices uphold the elections, the fight is on with Mr Marcos expected to do all to capture victory no matter what the cost. Either way, Mr Marcos is expected "to cheat" and no real fair, honest and clean elections are expected.

To stay in power is the goal of Mr Marcos and the KBL. Few, if any, will believe that this time Mr Marcos does give a damn that this exercise will be the fairest, honest and cleanest of polls. Few will wager that an x-ray of grace has shone on the conscience of the most manipulative Filipino that now, in his remaining years of temporal power, he is willing to submit to his people's free will. No one believes 100 percent that Mr Marcos is willing to step down from the power.

I am one of those who believe that Mr Marcos will step down in submission to the people's will. He is tired. He is weary. He is willing to turn over the problems of state. His only wish now is to be enshrined in the noble parthenon of history as a great leader, not a remembered tyrant or dictator. Of course, he is willing to do so only in his fightingest form. I know that he has marked this point well. He has considered how to step of power. He is prepared to get the most even from defeat so as to embellish his enshrinement in history. Of course he will do his meanest to remain in power. He will not step down without a fight.

The snap elections he called is a virtual submission to the process of recall. The impeachment move in the Batasan was not wasted after all. And he says he's running scared. Perhaps this is the only time that he is really scared. He knows he can lose.

I suspect that he has caused preparation of "Oplan Pisces" which will be the plan anticipating both victory and defeat. What will he do if re-elected once again? What will he do if defeated? However the polls turn out, he will be ready to use this for his enshrinement in history. If he wins, well, his ways of power will continue, even more ruthless and repressive than before. He knows that the NPA will only thrive on his victory. If he loses and steps down, he shall have proved that this system, his constitutional processes, can be self-healing. Isn't there a sentimentalist in his old age that will make him choose to be loved in defeat rather than only admired but hated in victory?

I believe that Mr Marcos can be defeated in the polls. I believe that this is the best time ever for his defeat. I believe that whatever the designs of this one man it will be the masses of our people who will make history, who will write history. I believe that Mr Marcos knows this and will do his most and best to be written in our people's history. I believe that our history need not be written wholly in blood and violence.

Those who say Mr Marcos cannot be defeated only fuel his machine of repression. They might as well join the KBL and partake in the spoils, crumbs, leftovers, and shame, tears, blood and sufferings of dictatorship.

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DAVAO EDITORIAL SUPPORTS IDEA OF WOMAN PRESIDENT

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 14 Dec 85 p 2

[Editorial: "A Woman's Macho Image"]

[Text] It might not be very pronounced but in the Philippines the woman subtly dominates the man.

Men usually regard their wife as the "commander in Chief." That's why every time men commit wrongdoings, they will not allow their wives to know lest they become "unwelcome guest" in their own house.

Here's a military captain who was so strict with his company during formation but with his wife he can be the most tame among the tamest of his men. He called his wife his "Major," his senior officer. Now that he was promoted as Major in the army, his wife automatically became Lt Colonel.

This would probably be a matter of joke but there's an iota of truth in that. A woman's superiority over men can be manifested on the little things they do.

Except for muscle strength, the woman has practically everything. They read more because they are not as restless as men are. They are more tolerant to pain as psychology has it. Men expresses immediately through a kind of brute force, but women do it cooly and with some sobs.

How many men have been disarmed because of the wittiness of a woman? How many men have been disarmed because they simply melt before the glances of women?

The power of women is equal to men if not more. She knows how to speak; they are even more articulate than men. She can even outsmart her male counterpart in oratorical contest or debates. She reads a lot and she has something that no man has: her uniqueness.

A famous poet in the days of yore said that a woman's weapons are her beauty, her tears and her tongue.

So, if a man can become president, there's no reason why a woman cannot.

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PHILIPPINES

AQUINO BROTHER SAYS COJUANGCO TIES CUT

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 16 Dec 85 pp 1, 4

[Text] Opposition leader Agapito "Butz" Aquino the other day said presidential bet Cory Aquino has cut off communications with Eduardo Cojuangco for several years now after suspecing her first degree cousin of having knowledge in the assassination of Ninoy.

Butz made the statement in answer to the question raised by one observer during the open forum of the Cebu Breakfast Club at a downtown hotel about the relation between the two cousins, (Cory Aquino and Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco).

According to Butz, he is sure that if Cory will be elected to the presidency, there will be no more Danding Cojuangco, Roberto Benedicto and other Marcos cronies in the cabinet. In short, cronyism will be totally abolished.

Ninoy's brother also said that one of the programs of government that the opposition will undertake is the abolition of industrial, commercial, agricultural and educational cronyism.

In a separate interview with this reporter, Butz said that after the opposition takes over the post of dictator Marcos, the cronies of the President will be removed from the business circle so as not to give them a single chance to siphon huge wealth at the expense of the Filipino people.

Butz said that in the coconut industry, for example, Cojuangco, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, MP Eladio Chatto of Bohol and others, will be asked to render accounting to the total amount they have on hand since the creation of the COCOFED, COCOBANK and other coconut industry related institution.

In the sugar industry, Philsucom will be completely restructured and the men behind its collapse like Benedicto, Armando Gustilo and others will be investigated.

"There will be a total sweeping out of Marcos-appointed officials if the tyrant gets defeated in the coming snap presidential election, Butz concluded.

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COLUMNIST LAUDS RESTRAINT DURING RECENT RALLIES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 10 Dec 85 p 6

[Commentary by Benedicto David: "Proper Handling"]

[Text] The demonstrations at Mendiola and at Camp Aguinaldo should prove that one hand cannot clap alone.

The police and the military were nowhere in sight at Camp Aguinaldo and Cubao except for the usual sentries at the EDSA gate of the camp--and there was no trouble.

The demonstrators staged a one-minute noise barrage and then left noisily but peacefully for Cubao where they said they would hold a short program to denounce the Aquino case verdict.

At Mendiola, the thousands of demonstrators were allowed to go all the way to the foot of the bridge where the same scenario was repeated.

All this is a far cry from the days when fire-trucks and soldiers and cops with guns forcibly dispersed demonstrations which might otherwise have been completely peaceful.

It was a far cry from the days when old men and even pregnant women were hosed down and cops ran after demonstrators wielding their night sticks with gusto. This is quite a relief and we hope that the same thing happens whenever there are demonstrations.

Apparently, some people are learning that for the most part, except for the most radical of sectors, demonstrations are held to express opinions publicly and noisily in order to attract attention to their points of view--something which is clearly embraced by the guarantees of the Constitution.

The authorities could have invoked "legal" grounds for the forcible dispersal of the demonstrations, but that did not happen. This is a healthy sign.

All this should be followed by more access to sources of information and statements, particularly from the government side.

Of late, Mr Marcos has been making himself available to foreign media. He has thus been able to address the peoples of the various countries directly. This should also continue. There is nothing to gain by making it difficult for the foreign press to get to primary sources of information through interviews and actual coverage.

The new accesibility of the military to newsmen is another welcome development. Recently, a Canadian television crew was allowed to go with the Davao RUC in an actual operation.

This is the only way for the government to get its side known. If it tries to hide what it is doing, the foreign press has no choice but to go to the other side, something which most propagandists should realize.

This new policy will most certainly do something for the "image" of the country. Hiding behind screens never benefited any government that professes to be a democracy.

Let the government open up and let its activities be known and it will get its share of news that it sent abroad. After all, the truth will out.

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DAVAO COLUMNIST ON PROTESTANT SECT'S ROLE IN POLITICS

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 14 Dec 85 p 2

["By-Line" column by Casim Arkoncel: "INK Youth Spurn NPA Recruiters"]

[Text] A religious minority known as Iglesia Ni Kristo is fast becoming the "dominant opposition party" insofar as the Catholic majority is concerned. Founded only in 1944 by Erano Manalo, the sect has grown as fast as Catholics embrace other creeds, if not faster.

Today, the INK has established itself in all cities and provinces in the country as well as spread the "word" in many communities in the United States. Without going farther than Davao City, the local Iglesias have in the past, and will continue to flex its muscles politically. Although not a political party or having fielded candidate to run for public office, the Iglesias have shown solidarity that every candidate hopes to be favored with. The teachings of the INK include unity as the Bible had taught all Christians. It is only the INK, however, that has commanded obedience of its flock and not even the dictatorial Mother Church in Rome has achieved what the Scriptures require of the Lord's flock.

The myth that was the so-called Catholic vote had long been proven to be non-existent. On the other hand, the solid Iglesia vote had installed many a politician in power or made the difference between winning and losing the polls. Politicians have made no bones about the desire for the sect's support and actually lobby with church leaders if not the INK hierarchy in Quezon City.

The voting strength of the Iglesias in the city is estimated to be 15,000 more or less, but the nationwide potential runs to a few million votes which is a conservative estimate. Actually the candidate for whom the INK goes for is not known until two to five days before election day, usually during one of the two service days of the week. In a recent election, however, the word was given only to deacons who had the responsibility to notify the flock.

Iglesias hold two services a week--on Thursdays and Sundays. They do not observe Lent or celebrate Christmas as they believe that December 25 is not really the day Christ was born, but on a cold winter's night which could be January or February. Yes, they eat pork but no blood or dinuguan. Drinking is taboo as well as mixed marriages.

As citizens, the INK does not join any civil disobedience movement. They pay tithes to their church and all these went to the imposing cathedrals all around the country. The study of the INK teachings does not come in revival meetings that the lost flock of other churches practise. Rather, their religious education is a continuing process during church services and frequent meetings.

As a church of Christ, the INK has not allowed the hallowed halls of worship to be the site for anti-government teachings. The Iglesia youth have kept their noses clean from the scourge of drug addiction and other frivolous activities. The INK youth also have resisted the lures and recruitment campaign of insurgents. Statistics bared by the Bureau of Prisons revealed that there are but a few Iglesia members in jail.

With the election fast approaching, political plans always include the Iglesia Ni Kristo as a potent force that could spell victory or defeat. The Iglesias by the way, have supported mostly Catholic candidates and do not discriminate heritically as Catholics do.

As among the probable candidates for president next Frebruary 7, the one most likely to be given the INK support is President Marcos whom the church had supported in all past elections. Or will it be somebody else, like Cory Aquino or Doy Laurel?

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COLUMNIST ON CONCERN OVER USSR PRESENCE IN AREA

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 31 Dec 85 p 4

[Article by Jesus Bigornia: "USSR Now Has 3 Military Bases in Indochina"]

[Text] Removal of American military bases has become a major issue in the forthcoming special presidential elections. President Marcos, campaigning for a fresh mandate from the people on the vital importance to national security of the Clark Air Force base in Pampanga and the Subic Naval facility in Zambales, calls the United Opposition's position to wait out the expiration of the RP-US Military Bases Agreement vague and therefore unsatisfactory to the nation.

Before the country's voters rush to either the support or withdrawal of support for one or the other of the contending candidates for the presidency, it would be wise to take a brief look at the strategic situation in Southeast Asia. The past six years have brought vast improvement in the Soviet position in Southeast Asia. The USSR-Vietnam alliance has allowed the Soviet Union to reap the benefits of Hanoi's occupation of Cambodia and dominance of Laos. Among the rewards have been the unrestricted use of three strategic bases in the region.

Politically and militarily, 1978 was the turning point for the Soviet Union in Asia. Vietnam ended a long friendship with China, signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, joined the Communist Council for Economic Assistance and assured of Soviet support, invaded Cambodia. In return for Soviet backing, Vietnam turned over to the Russians three strategic bases in Indochina--Cam Ranh Bay and Danang in Vietnam and the Cambodia port of Kompong Sam on the Gulf of Siam.

While the Russian Pacific fleet also utilize bases in South Yeman and North Korea, Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam has become the center of fleet operations. Reports have it that by mid-1985, Cam Ranh had become the largest Soviet overseas naval-air base. Three new piers have been constructed to bring the total to six. Six floating docks have been added. Extensive storage facilities for bomber fuel have been installed. Thirty-eight Soviet warships and submarines, eight Bear reconnaissance aircraft, 10 Badger bombers and full squadron of MiG-23 Flogger fighter-attack planes operate out of Cam Ranh.

All capitals of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are within the 3,100 kilometer range of Cam Ranh Bay-based bombers. They can carry and deliver conventional or nuclear warheads. Indeed, Clark and Subic are vital to the so-called balance of power in Asia. Their continued presence here are in the opinion of most strategists, vital to deterring Soviet expansionism.

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CEBU DAILY: NPA TAXING CHINESE TRADERS

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 21 Dec 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] Chinese-Filipino businessmen in Metro Cebu were asked recently to financially support the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the Bagong Hukbo ng Bayan (BHB).

Reports gathered by Sun Star Daily yesterday revealed that solicitation letters were sent out last week to a number of wealthy Chinese-Filipino businessmen.

A Xerox copy of one of the solicitation letters reached Sun Star Daily which bore the name of Ka Amado Pinguel, deputy secretary for finance in the Metro Cebu Urban Party Committee of the CPP/BHB.

Several businessmen reportedly received copies of these letters bearing Pinguel's name but their identities were withheld for security reasons.

Pinguel's letter informed them of the necessity to support the intensifying revolutionary struggle waged by the Communists in Metro Cebu.

He claimed that businessmen were indirectly supporting their cause through acts of economic sabotage such as smuggling, tax evasion, labor exploitation and dollar salting.

The solicitation letter said it knows the military connections of the Chinese-Filipino businessmen whom it claims to be hiring policemen to augment its own security forces.

Pinguel warned them that their business establishments were vulnerable to small scale BHB operations and that lawmen could not always be around to protect them to the last split second.

He explained they were not intending to threaten or harm people but were not even trying to be considerate and reasonable by communicating with the businessmen directly.

Understanding

Pinguel stressed that the letter should not be considered as an act of extortion as they were very much against it.

The Communist finance officer mentioned of extreme danger faced by their firms or of the businessmen themselves should they notify the military authorities about this.

Pinguel also claimed that most of the business firms in Metro Cebu were already in good rapport with them.

Some of the businessmen were asked to give P100.000 each as taxes or contributions to the communist movement for the year 1985 by Pinguel who added that their monthly contributions for 1986 can be negotiated.

Money

Instructions on how to deliver the money which is in cash, date, time and place of delivery were included in the letter.

These businessmen were also asked to furnish to the Communists Xerox copies of letters, supposedly from the underground movement, extorting money from them.

He earnestly requested the cooperation of the businessmen and offered to provide them security should these "entities" insist on their extortion activities until such time they are eliminated.

Military authorities would not comment officially on the solicitation letters as they were still in the process of verifying its authenticity.

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BAYAN HITS RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN MEETING WITH PC

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Dec 85 p 8

[Article by Bert Padilla]

[Text] Malolos, Bulacan, Dec 10--The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan), Bulacan chapter, demanded an end to violation of human rights, the repeal of the National Service Law, BP 130 and 227 and the Public Assembly Act during a dialogue with provincial and PC-INP officials at the Capitol building here yesterday.

Bayan spokesmen also called on the government officials, especially Gov Ignacio Santiago, to involve themselves on the fight against human rights' violations just as they busy themselves with increasing the food production.

They said that "it is not enough that we eat, but the people must be also well protected."

The dialogue coincided with the 37th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in which the Philippines was one of the signatories.

The Bayan leaders claimed that the continuing militarization in the country has resulted in many deaths, including 13 Bulakenos. Four others were believed killed after they were reportedly abducted by men in military uniforms.

They demanded that the Public Assembly act and the National Service law "be put in the trash cans."

Gov Santiago assured the Bayan leaders and some 1,000 demonstrators who camped in at the Capitol quadrangle since yesterday that the provincial government would act on their requests and would coordinate these with other public agencies, including the military.

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MUSLIM AFFAIRS MINISTER CONCERNED OVER MOSQUE BLAST

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Dec 85 p 8

[Text] Muslim Affairs Minister Simeon A. Datumanong has condemned the recent grenade throwing in a Muslim mosque in Ticpalay, Zamboanga del Sur, in which four persons were killed and 20 others were wounded.

"This incident is highly condemnable, happening as it is in a place of worship," Datumanong said.

Earlier, Datumanong urged Chairman Sali H. Wali of the Autonomous Region IX to investigate the case thoroughly so those responsible could be pinpointed and prosecuted.

The government will do its best to bring the perpetrators into the hands of the law and justice, Datumanong said, adding that he has also requested Brig Gen Delfin Castro of the Southern Command to help in the probe.

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PHILIPPINES

BANKS STILL UNABLE TO MAKE LOANS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Dec 85 p 21

[Text] For the third year in a row, the Philippine National Bank and Development Bank of the Philippines will still not be able to make any new lendings in 1986 due to serious funding constraints.

Sources disclosed yesterday that the DBP was still not processing any new loan applications because its funding sources remain shut off. The DBP halted lending operations in 1984.

Borrowings from both local and foreign sources had been the main fund sources of DBP in the past, augmented by budgetary support from the national government and from its income from operations.

Since the debt moratorium in 1983, the DBP was cut off from its foreign lenders. The ensuing economic recession that followed after that seriously affected the paying capacity of many of its accounts, thereby further drying up its funding sources.

After a record loss of P6 billion in 1984, the DBP had to rely almost solely on budgetary support from the national government. In 1985 when it expects another loss of about the same magnitude, the DBP has asked the government to provide it with P7.5 billion.

Approximately the same situation confronts the PNB. The government-owned commercial banks is also saddled with non-performing accounts which account for the bigger bulk of its lending portfolio. It was also shut off from sources of borrowed funds, including the Central Bank which clamped a ceiling on the amount of loans it grants the PNB.

PNB also lost in its operations, and relied on budgetary support to prop up its operations.

Both institutions are constrained from considering any new loans, except to roll over existing good accounts in agriculture as well as small- and medium-scale industries.

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PHILIPPINES

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES WOMEN'S ROLE IN HUMAN RIGHTS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Dec 85 p 10

[Article by O.S. Giron]

[Text] For the first time in 40 years, the international community is agreed that women have a valid claim to participate in the struggle for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as for economic and social reforms.

This was one of the conclusions reached in the recent World Conference on the UN Women's Decade held in Nairobi, Kenya, where an estimated 14,000 participants from 157 states, including the Philippines, gathered.

Ambassador Rosalinda V. Tirona told the conference that the Batasang Pambansa has scheduled for consideration a bill which will integrate into a central mechanism the activities of 77 women's non-governmental organizations.

This machinery, she said, will ensure coordination by developing a comprehensive and concerted approach to all women's issues relating to their advancement.

Tirona, assistant minister for the foreign ministry's United Nations and International Organizations (UNIO), said the centerpiece of the Philippines' national economic recovery program is self-reliance.

"Women can contribute substantially to this program if given all the opportunities to exercise economic independence," she said.

Like most developing nations, Tirona said, women in the Philippines constitute half of the total work force and are mostly situated in the rural areas.

The Philippines thus welcomes the expansion of international cooperation and UN efforts in the promotion of the productive capacity of rural women under sound and fair working conditions, she added.

She pointed out that although women play a critical role in agricultural production and marketing, statistics indicate that only 0.05 percent of the UN system's total allocation to the agricultural sector goes to programs for rural women.

Stressing that the major share of development resources are allocated to technical projects for men, Tirona pointed out the need to reassess priorities to strengthen women's capacities to produce food and exports.

She said that at the level of policy, women should be represented in national economic and development bodies so that the contributions of women could be duly quantified and qualified.

"Changes in national plans should take into account the effects of such changes on the women as catalysts and beneficiaries of development, on one hand, and their productive and reproductive roles, on the other," the ambassador said.

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PHILIPPINES

BENGUET PLEDGES NO SHUTDOWN OF MINES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 31 Dec 85 p 13

[Article by Nathan E. Alcantara]

[Text] Baguio City, Dec 30 (PNA)--An official of Benguet Corporation has predicted 1986 will be a tough year but that the company will not shut down any of its mining camps nor will it retrench employes to reduce its losses of about P117 million in 1985.

1985 has not been a very good year for gold operations, Benguet executive vice president for operations Lawrence Martin said at a press conference Friday.

The relatively low price of gold and the high cost of production aggravated by increased electric power expenses from pumping costs due to heavy rains this year contributed to the loss, Martin said.

The London gold price, Martin said, ran from a high of $357 per ounce some time in January 1985 to a low of $280. Production costs per ounce is above the desired $310 ranging from $316 to $321 to a high of $328. Pumping costs increased by 32 percent.

The company also spent P4.5 million to cement embankments of the Antamok river to prevent it from affecting their operations.

Martin said the company lost P6 million last November but they expect to break even in December. Projections are that Benguet gold operations will have a net loss of about P117 million this year after subtracting corporate and overhead expenses.

"I must admit this is the biggest loss we have so far," Martin said, adding that management had almost drained the treasury of the corporation this year.

Engineer Dennis Belmonte, vice president for Benguet gold operations concurred with Martin's observations. "It's make-or-break next year with the implementation of streamlined operations and cost-cutting measures," Belmonte said.

Belmonte said the no-hiring policy will remain and the increased gold grade-reduced tonnage production policy will continue.

Increased gold grade is achieved by selective mining while reduced tonnage slows down the drain of chemicals used for gold processing.

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SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

OPPOSITION CHAIRMAN BARRED FROM POLLS--Singapore, Jan 10 (AFP)--An opposition candidate in the last general elections has been barred from standing in the next polls following a conviction for negligent driving. Tan Choon Kien, 29, chairman of the Singapore United Front, was yesterday fined 3,500 dollars (1,700 U.S. dollars) and barred from driving for three years by a lower court in connection with the July 1984 traffic accident in which one person was killed. Under the Singapore constitution, anyone sentenced to more than one year in jail or fined more than 2,000 dollars for a criminal offence is barred from contesting the elections for a period of five years. Tan, a businessman, lost very narrowly in the last general elections when he won 46.77 percent of the votes in his constituency as against just over 52 percent for the ruling Peoples Action Party (PAP) candidate. Tan now has the option of taking his case before the high court. If the sentence is upheld in the high court, he may then appeal to the president for a pardon which would enable him to run in the next elections. Tan has so far not indicated whether he will appeal his sentence. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0653 GMT 10 Jan 86 HK] /6662

CSO: 4200/535

NORTHERN MP'S CHALLENGE SITTHI'S SAP LEADERSHIP

BK040144 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] A group of northern MPs in the Social Action Party (SAP) yesterday challenged the leadership of ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila, saying they want deputy party leader Bungtheng Thongsawat instead as party leader and former deputy party leader Bunchu Rotchanasthian as party secretary general. Sitthi, who has been elected interim leader, pledged he would act swiftly to effect a smooth Cabinet reshuffle confined to SAP ministers. Observers believe that the northern MPs move yesterday may complicate his efforts to bring about an early Cabinet shake-up.

Lampun MP Saman Chomphuthep claimed that a group of more than 10 northern MPs had agreed to support Buntheng as permanent party leader. Among the SAP members who agreed to support Buntheng and Bunchu were Chiang Mai MPs Prida Phatthanathabut, also minister of the University Affairs Ministry; Amnuai Yotsuk, who is also deputy finance minister; Subin Pnkhayan; Charoen Chaoprayun; Dr Sayom Rammasut; and Payao MP Chaweng Wongyai, Saman said. Buntheng could not be reached for comment yesterday. He has been absent from his office at Government House for two days and aides said that the deputy premier was in his Chiang Mai constituency.

Bunchu told THE NATION last night that he had not been approached by any MPs on the matter but said that if approached, a discussion must be held to ensure that he would be in a position to restore the party's standing in his own way. Without such a prior informal agreement, he would not accept the nomination. "I have made clear what way we can improve the party. I have told it all to M.R. Khukrit Pramot," he said. He said that it was time for all factions in the party to unite because the party was like a sinking boat. "We should not engage in a power struggle or scramble for posts, but should work together for the good of the party," he added.

Saman said that the northern MPs would meet at Rot Fai Chiang Mai hotel during Jan 11-12 to prepare for the meeting of party MPs on Jan 15. "If Buntheng is not elected party leader, we will propose that he should resign from the party," the Lamphun MP told reporters at Parliament. Saman said that if ACM Sitthi Sawetsila, chosen by the SAP executive committee as interim leader, was elected to the party top slot, the party would be widely divided. "Buntheng is a close friend of former party leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot. He has more political acumen than ACM Sitthi and is widely recognized among the rank and file of the party. Moreover, he is the senior executive member, the Lamphun MP said. Buntheng is first deputy leader while ACM Sitthi was second party deputy leader. The MP said that Bunchu should be elected party secrtary general because he would have an excellent working relations with Buntheng. "I believe Bunchu will definitely make a comeback to the party. I am one million per cent sure," he said. He added that former secretary general Phong Sarasin was unlikely to return to the post because he is so close to M.R. Khukrit. "A party secretary general is like a housewife and must get along very well with the party leader or head of the family," he said.

Kalasin MP Mai Sirinawakun, however, dismissed the possibility that Buntheng would be made party leader. "He is too old, older than M.R. Khukrit and his health is not good," Mai commented. Some MPs believe that Buntheng is good at solving conflicts but that the quality does not justify calling for him to take up the top slot, according to Mai. However, he said there was a chance that Bunchu may make a comeback as party leader. "I bet if you sound out the opinion of party MPs, you will find that the majority want him back. They feel uneasy to air their views because M.R. Khukrit is still hurt that Bunchu left the party after the last general elections," he said.

He added that a group of 30-40 SAP MPs last year sent a note to Bunchu asking him to return to an active role in the party. However, Bunchu ignored the call. Mai said that Bunchu was recognized for his achievements while he was deputy party leader. "It was a golden age for SAP. The party plunged to its lowest point when Phong Sarasin was party secretary general," he said.

Meanwhile, SAP MP from Chumphon Thiraphan Pethsuwan objected to the call for Commerce Minister Koson Krairoek to step down. He said that Koson had made several contributions over the past two years while commerce minister. Without the paddy price lifting scheme, the paddy price may have gone down to 1,800-1,900 baht per kwian, the deputy party secretary general said. He said that never has a commerce minister been praised so much.

The party meeting called by caretaker leader Sitthi for Tuesday would be attended by both party executives and MPs and the outcome of the meeting is still unpredictable because of factionalism in the party, he said. ACM Sitthi earlier told THE NATION that he would move swiftly to bring about a smooth Cabinet reshuffle which would affect only SAP ministers.

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CSO: 4200/532

FARMERS GROUP SEEKS INCREASED TRADE WITH INDOCHINA

BK070124 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Jan 86 p 17

[Text] Thailand should tie its policy to step up trade with communist Indochina as part of the country's export diversification. "As a matter of fact, a lot of Thai goods are being smuggled into Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea anyway. The solution, it seems, would be to establish direct trade with them," said an analysis published in the latest bulletin of Thai Farmers Bank [TFB].

Somyot Chaemchoi, writing in the bulletin, contends that Japan and Singapore have been trading with Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea while Thailand, despite her geographical advantage, has been sensitive about the issue for political and security reasons.

"If the government adopts a clear-cut policy on this issue, Thai businessmen will be able to penetrate the Indochinese markets without much difficulty. Thai exporters could easily dominate the market there. It's a market which is close to us but which has been ignored for quite some time," the commentary says.

While there may be political sensitivities about rading with Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, the bulletin adds, the same action could at the same time be turned into a political bargaining power in view of protectionism Thailand has suffered from other countries.

The commentary notes that Vietnam has been carrying out extensive trading with Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore, in that order.

Laos continues to rely heavily on Thailand as a trading partner while trade between Thailand and Kampuchea has been minimal due to political reasons. But trade between Singapore and Kampuchea has been on the rise. In 1984, Singapore sold a total of 810 million baht of goods to Kampuchea, compared to Thailand's meager 900,000 baht exports to that country.

"It is clear that while we have ignored our neighbouring markets, other countries in the region have taken advantage of this gap," the TFB commentary says.

During the five-year period between 1980-1984, Thai-Vietnamese trade value was low and uncertain, due mainly to political ups and downs. In 1980, Thai-Vietnamese trade was valued at 276 million baht. But in the following year, it dropped to only 18 million baht because of political strains. In 1982, trade between the two countries picked up slightly to 34.7 million baht--and dropped again to 30.2 million baht in the following year.

In 1984, Thai-Vietnamese trade rose to 212.9 million baht. "It is noteworthy, however, that when Thai-Vietnamese trade volume declined, trade between Singapore and Vietnam tended to rise. In 1980, for example, Singapore's trade with Vietnam rose to 1,809 million baht. In the following year, when Thai-Vietnamese trade dropped to 18 million baht, Singapore's trade with Hanoi jumped to 2,295 million baht, or a whopping increase of 26.9 percent. The same trend was reported for 1983," the commentary says.

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CSO: 4200/532

GUIDELINES ON PURCHASE OF RICE FOR REFUGEES

BK070140 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Jan 86 p 5

[Text] National Security Council Secretary General Prasong Sunsiri confirmed yesterday that he has told the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to channel cash donations to the Ministry of Interior which will be responsible for procurement of rice for Indochinese refugees.

Sqd Leader Prasong told reporters that he has insisted the UNHCR follow the agreement that any cash donation to the UN agency must be relayed to the Interior Ministry.

Prason's statement came after the report that he tendered a note to the representative of the UNHCR here a few weeks ago to ask the agency to stop using money donated by the European Community to procure rice for the Lao and Vietnamese refugees inhabiting the ministry-controlled camps.

He said the UNHCR had previously handed cash donations of the EC to the ministry and let Thai Government officials procure the rice for the refugees. However, the EC complained the rice which the ministry procured by opening bidding in upcountry provinces was more expensive than the average market price.

The EC subsequently termed its assistance as donations in kind which meant it would provide commodities instead of money. However, it practically gave money to the UNHCR to purchase the rice.

Informed source told THE NATION earlier that the Geneva-based agency had agreed with the Thai Government that if the UNHCR received the donation in cash, the money should be funneled to the Interior Ministry. The UNHCR, however, declined to acknowledge the existence of such an agreement.

Prasong said he proposed to the ministry to open its bidding of rice in Bangkok where the price is inclined to be cheaper. He also asked the ministry to let the EC and UNHCR representatives observe the bidding procedures.

"I believe the parties concerned would agree with the proposal," Prasong said.

The dispute on the EC donation was reported to have disrupted rice supplies to about 48,000 Lao refugees residing in two camps in the North and Northeast last October.

A temporary agreement was reached then when Prasong who acted as the mediator between the parties concerned said the 10,000 tons of rice would be bought from local dealers to feed the refugees during October and December last year.

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CSO: 4200/532

THAILAND

BRIEFS

SECURITY STEP-UP IN SOUTH--Security in the four mainly Muslim southern provinces has been stepped up amid reports of a separatist threat. Police claimed an armed faction of the separatist Pattani United Liberation Organisation (PULO) was planning attacks on mosques and wats to spark conflict between Muslims and Buddhists. They said the faction, numbering less than 15, planned to strike in Narathiwat and Yala Provinces. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Jan 86 p 1 BK] /6662

ANDAMAN ISLAND WATERS WARNINGS--Vessels violating Indian strategic waters around the Andaman-Nicobar archipelago will be considered on espionage missions, the Fisheries Department deputy director said yesterday. Plotprasop Suratsawadi said the department last last year issued two formal announcements warning vessels of the severe penalties for violating Indian and Burmese waters. In the first announcement, the department said Indian authorities regarded waters around the archipelago, which has a naval base, as strategic and off-limits. In the second announcement, the department said Burmese authorities would also charge trawler crews trespassing its waters with violating natural resource conservation and import-export laws. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Jan 86 p 3 BK] /6662

PRC ORDERS MORE RICE--China wants to buy 80,000 tons of Thai rice at world market prices in addition to its projected purchase of up to 120,000 tons this year. The additional order was confirmed by Chinese Ambassador Zhang Dewei during his meeting with Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila yesterday. China's proposal to buy more Thai rice was reported to the ministry by Ambassador to Beijing Orachun Tanaphong on Wednesday. The order was the result of the recent visit to Thailand by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Zheqian when ACM Sitthi asked him to convey Thailand's request to Beijing to buy more rice. Mr Wu said he would consider the request but thought that there might be problems because of the existing import quota and foreign exchange constraints. Beijing's decision reflects strong relations between Thailand and China. ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi has asked Beijing to send a delegation to Bangkok next week to negotiate the deal [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Jan 86 p 1 BK] /6662

SUSPECTED COMMUNISTS ARRESTS--Nakhon Si Thammarat--Eight communist suspects were arrested early this morning when Army-trained Rangers raided a communists camp in Thung Song District of this southern province. A team of Rangers from Ron Phibun District went into the area after learning thatmembers of Communist Party of Thailand led by Comrade Sa-mat had been cutting logs in Huai Lamna in Thung Song. The Rangers found a camp with three living quarters, each capable of accommodating 15 to 20 people, a six-wheel truck, a motorcycle and a bomb. Eight communist suspects surrendered without any resistance. Another group of Rangers early this morning also raised a communist camp in Tha Sala District and seized communist documents, a shotgun pistol and about 400 rounds of ammunition. No arrests were made. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 7 Jan 86 p 3 BK] /6662

PREM QUOTED ON FARMERS' PROTEST--Government spokesman Trairong Suwannakhiri quoted Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon as claiming a "third party" was behind the farmers' protest but he did not say whom. "The Government has not sat idle over the problem and has tried its best. However, it is impossible for the Government to please certain groups of people who are behind the rally," Mr Trairong quoted the premier as saying. [Excerpt] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Jan 86 pp 1, 3 BK] /6662

CSO: 4200/532

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VONADK EDITORIAL ON 7 YEARS OF SRV AGGRESSION

BK070730 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Station editorial: "Seven Years of the Le Duan Vietnamese Clique's Aggression in Cambodia Were 7 Years of Great Suffering by the Cambodian People"]

[Text] At the end of 1978 and the beginning of 1979, when they sent hundreds of thousands of soldiers to attack and invade Democratic Kampuchea, the Le Duan Vietnamese clique thought that they would be able to invade and occupy the entire Cambodia during a short period of time in accordance with their blitzkrieg strategy. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors were very happy and boasted because they thought that they were able to swallow up Cambodia forever and set up the Indochina Federation in conformity with the testament of the late Ho Chi Minh.

Obsessed by their immense ambitions, the Le Duan clique forgot all lessons from history that the Vietnamese people passed through recently. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been arrogant and have stated that the situation in Cambodia is irreversible, or that there is no Cambodian problem.

Since then, the Le Duan Vietnamese aggressor clique has started to systematically implement their genocidal policy against the Cambodian race in accordance with their plan set up in advance by using conventional weapons, famine, and chemical weapons prohibited by the international community. During the 1978-1979 dry season, which was the first dry season of their war of aggression, Vietnamese troops killed about 500,000 of our compatriots. During the 1979 rainy season which was the first rainy season, about another 500,000 Cambodians were killed of famine because the Vietnamese enemy aggressors savagely and barbarously used starvation as a weapon. During all of 1980, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors killed 1.5 million of our compatriots. Therefore, during 1979 and 1980, about 2.5 million Cambodians were tragically killed due to the Le Duan Vietnamese aggressor clique's genocidal policy.

At present, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors are continuing their criminal and genocidal acts against the Cambodian people with a larger scale while they have sent hundreds of thousands of their nationals to settle permanently to Cambodia. Concurrently, they have intensified the implementation of the Vietnamization policy in all fields, especially in the fields of education and culture in an attempt to abolish our national entity and destroy our Cambodian soul in conformity with their strategy to swallow up Cambodia and make it a Vietnamese province. The Le Duan Vietnamese clique has made every effort to implement this Vietnamization policy not only at present, but they are prepared to implement it in the next generations as well for they have sent tens of thousands of Cambodian youths and children to be educated in their country in order to use them as instruments to serve their heinous Vietnamization policy in the future. Moreover, the Le Duan Vietnamese clique has made every effort to stage political and diplomatic maneuvers and wage their psychological war and propaganda to mislead the world community and to hide the facts about their aggression in Cambodia and their genocide of the Cambodian race.

However, the Cambodian people and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea are well aware of the tricky nature of the Le Duan Vietnamese clique. With the assistance, support, and encouragement from the overwhelming number of peace- and justice-loving peoples throughout the world, the heroic Cambodian people and the heroic National Army of Democratic Kampuchea have raised aloft the banner of patriotism, pursued their valiant and tough struggle, and sacrificed their fresh flesh and blood for their nation. The Cambodian people and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea transformed the situation when our Cambodian nation was at the verge of death in 1979 and 1980 into the present better situation in which the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have encountered many defeats and the final victory will be achieved by our Cambodian nation and people.

In the new situation, especially since the 1981 rainy season when they were unable to defeat the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea on the battlefields, the Le Duan Vietnamese clique have made every effort to stage many more tricky and poisonous diplomatic maneuvers, such as by saying that the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia is reversible. Furthermore, they have waged tricky maneuvers about their partial troop withdrawals, their trick on their complete troop withdrawal in 1990, and lately their trick on Pol Pot's removal. All these maneuvers are only a smokescreen to hide their increasing acts of aggression and genocide against the Cambodian race.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have sent many [word indistinct] troops, tanks, artillery pieces, and military materiel to the battlefields of aggression in Cambodia, particularly in the Cambodian-Thai border region, in this eighth dry season. Simultaneously, in compliance with their criminal A-5 plan, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have forced many Cambodians--male, female, the young, and the elderly--throughout the country to clear the forests, build roads, dig trenches and ditches, and construct military buildings for them in western Cambodia. The Vietnamese aggressors have forced these people to walk in front of their troops across minefields and Punji spike networks, using the people as shields on the battlefield. Due to this new crime committed by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors to exterminate the Cambodian race, tens of thousands and even hundreds of thousands of our compatriots have been killed, wounded, injured, and affected with malarias every year.

Therefore, recent experiences in Vietnam and Cambodia have clearly shown that the Le Duan Vietnamese clique has staged many tricky maneuvers in all fields.

In the past, they always used their military means and brute force to achieve their final goal. The Vietnamese maneuver to remove Pol Pot has been shamefully destroyed because the 30 December 1985 statement by Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, has shown once again the good will of Democratic Kampuchea in quickly settling the Cambodian problem through political means, restoring peace in the region, and coexisting peacefully for the long period with the SRV. The Le Duan Vietnamese aggressor clique will turn a deaf ear and will not answer this new goodwill political attitude and this recent concession of Democratic Kampuchea because they will not abandon their strategy of swallowing up Cambodia to set up their heinous Indochina Federation.

Facing this situation, the Cambodian people and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea have no choice but to continue to strengthen the great national union and to pursue the struggle in all forms, especially to fight the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators on the battlefields in conformity with the new 5-point strategy of the Supreme Command until the Vietnamese enemy aggressors are forced to withdraw all their aggressor forces from Cambodia unconditionally and let the Cambodian people determine their own destiny in accordance with the seven UN resolutions.

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CSO: 4212/45

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

SIHANOUK'S MESSAGE ON ZHOU ENLAI DEATH ANNIVERSARY

BK110622 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 10 Jan 86

["Text" of 8 January message from Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, to Mrs Deng Yingchao, widow of late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai on 10th anniversary of Zhou Enlai's death]

[Text] To Her Excellency Mrs Deng Yingchao Zhou Enlai:

As the Chinese people, the CPC, and government of the PRK mark the 10th anniversary of the death of your famous husband--brilliant Premier Zhou Enlai--my wife and I would like to extend to you our most profound respects and friendly sentiments.

At the same time, on behalf of the Cambodian people and the CGDK and in our own name, we would like to express our most sincere and lofty salutations to the soul of His Excellency Zhou Enlai who was the most sincere and loyal friend of the Cambodian people, who supported Cambodia, the Cambodia people, and the legitimate and legal government of Cambodia, and who made an incomparable contribution to the success of our struggle for an independent, neutral, nonaligned, democratic, and prosperous Cambodia.

Premier Zhou Enlai's famous name has been permanently inscribed on the history of China's national liberation and socialist construction and it's generous and unfaltering support to the Third World countries and peoples in their struggle for liberty as well as on the 2,000-year history of our Cambodia. Cambodia is very proud to be able to express its salutations to this immortal hero who made our two peoples of Cambodia and China unite forever.

Moreover, our people, our country, and we will never forget Mrs Deng Yingchao who, since her youth, has joined with her husband in leading the struggle for the victory of the Chinese people's noble ideals of revolution and socialism, for the total liberation of your fatherland, and for building China into a powerful, democratic, glorious, and happy socialist country with rising presitge in the world.

With sincere sentiments of respect, admiration, and acknowledgement in your feats, we would like to express our salutations to you and to the outstanding leaders of the CPC and PRC government.

Please accept our highest regards.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea and Norodom Monique Sihanouk

8 January 1986

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CSO: 4212/45

CLANDESTINE RADIOS REPORT BATTLEFIELD ACTIVITIES

Battle Reports 3-9 Jan

BK100752 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [VONADK] in Cambodian broadcasts the following battle reports for the reporting period 3-9 January:

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 3 January reports that Democratic Kampuchean forces dispersed Vietnamese commune administrations in Kroch Chhma District of Kompong Cham Province on 30 December, in Stoeng Kev Commune of Kampot District on the Kampot battlefield on 26 December, in (Kouk Srok) commune of Kompong Svay District on the Kompong Thom battlefield on 29 December, and in areas along the Mekong River bank in Chhlong District, Kratie Province, on 18 December. DK troops routed a Vietnamese company at (Tuol Khpos) on the North Sisophon battlefield on 28 December, and smashed a Vietnamese company position on the Leach battlefield on 30 December. They conducted various other battle activities against Vietnamese soldiers on the Kampot, Kompong Cham, Kompong Chhnang, South Sisophon, North Sisophon, and Siem Ta battlefields from 18 to 30 December, killing or wounding 83 Vietnamese soldiers, destroying 7 weapons, 4 commune office buildings, 5 boats, and some materiel. They also seized 14 weapons and some ammunition and war materiel.

According to VONADK at 2315 GMT on 4 January, DK forces dispersed Vietnamese commune administration at a commune in Udong District, Kompong Speu Province, on 26 December, dispersed commune administration and liberated two villages in Kakaoh commune in Moung District of Pursat Province on 27 December, smashed Vietnamese administration at a commune in Moung District on 31 December and cut 10 sections of railroad track on the Moung-Pursat battlefield on 31 December. They conducted various other battle activities against Vietnamese soldiers on the Preah Vihear, Koh Kong Leu, Siem Ta, Kompong Chhnang, North Sisophon, Moung-Pursat, Siem Reap, and Kompong Cham battlefields from 20 December to 1 January, killing or wounding 147 Vietnamese soldiers, destroying 20 assorted weapons, 200 meters of railroad track, 3 commune offices, 12 barracks, a large rice milling machine, and some documents. They also seized some weapons, ammunition, and war materiel and liberated two villages on the Moung-Pursat battlefield.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 5 January states that commune authorities in Cheung Prey District, Kompong Cham Province, were attacked on 28 December, Vietnamese positions were attacked on the South Sisophon battlefield on 1 January, and a Vietnamese platoon was attacked in Tang Krasang village, Kompong Thom Province on 31 December. Between 28 December and 3 January, DK forces killed 29 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 33 others on the Kompong Cham, Kompong Thom, South Sisophon, West Battambang, and Leach battlefields. They destroyed five weapons, a commune office, a 50-meter bridge, an ammunition depot, and some war materiel. They also seized some weapons, ammunition, and war materiel and liberated two villages on the South Sisophon battlefield.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 6 January reveals that DK troops attacked and dispersed Vietnamese administration in (Roka Khnao) commune, Kroch Chhma District, Kompong Cham Province, on 2 January. They attacked a commune office in Dambe District, Kompong Cham Province, on 31 December. A commune in Cheung Prey District, Kompong Cham Province, was attacked on 4 January. A Vietnamese company position in Kaoh Nhek District, Mondolkiri Province, was attacked on 1 January. A Vietnamese regiment was ambushed in Stung Treng District, Strung Treng Province, on 3 January. A Vietnamese platoon was ambushed in Snuol District, Kratie Province, on 1 January. A Vietnamese truck was ambushed in Kompong Chhnang Province on 23 December. From 26 December to 4 January, DK troops killed or wounded 150 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the South Sisophon, Siem Ta, Samlot, Kompong Chhnang, and Kampot battlefields. They destroyed 18 assorted guns, 4 commune offices, a paddy storehouse, 5 military barracks, a truck, a bicycle, and a quantity of military materiel. They also seized five guns and some ammunition and military materiel and liberated six villages on the Kompong Cham battlefield.

According to VNADK at 2315 GMT on 7 January, Kroch commune office, Prey Chhor District, Kompong Cham Province, was attacked on 4 January. A commune office in Baribo District, Kompong Chhnang Province, was attacked on 1 January. DK forces ambushed a Vietnamese regiment on the Pailin battlefield on 30 and 31 December and cut 200 meters of railroad track on the Kompong Chhnang battlefield on 28 December. From 28 December to 5 January, DK troops killed or wounded 133 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the Pailin, Kompong Som, Koh Kong Leu, and Kompong Thom battlefields. They destroyed 19 assorted guns, 1 commune office, 1 ammunition depot, 4 military barracks, and some military materiel. They also cut 200 meters of railroad track and seized some guns, ammunition, and military materiel.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 8 January discloses that a commune office in Banteay Srei District, Siem Reap Province, was attacked on 30 December, a commune office in Stoung District, Kompong Thom Province, was attacked on 30 December, and a truck was ambushed on the road between Anlung Veng and Oddar Meanchey, Siem Reap Province, on 4 January. Vietnamese soldiers were ambushed near Toek Chha, Chamla Leu District, Kompong Cham Province, on 31 December and a Vietnamese company position in Baray District, Kompong Thom Province, was attacked on 30 December. From 20 December to 5 January, DK troops killed or wounded 158 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the Kompong Thom, Samlot, Kampot, Leach, Phnom Penh northwest, and Kompong Cham battlefields. They destroyed eight guns, four trucks, and some military materiel. They also seized eight guns and some ammunition and military materiel.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 9 January says that two Vietnamese company positions on the Pailin battlefield were attacked on 6 January; a commune office in Tuk Meas District, Kampot Province, was attacked on 3 January. A commune office in Kompong Trach District, Kampot Province, was attacked on 3 January. Ang and Thnoeng commune offices, Kompong Trach District, Kampot Province, were attacked on 6 January. From 1 to 6 January, DK combatants killed or wounded 191 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the Siem Ta, Pailin, Kompong Thom, and Koh Kong Leu battlefields, destroyed 36 assorted guns, 2 trucks, and some military materiel. They also seized seven guns and some ammunition and war materiel.

Kompong Som Port Attacked

BK130548 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Daily battle report from various battlefields]

[Excerpt] On 4 January, our national army fired two 107-mm rockets into Soviet houses in Kompong Som town, causing panic among the Soviets and the Vietnamese enemy throughout the town.

3 Villages 'Liberated'

BK130208 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Report from various battlefields]

[Excerpts] West Battambang battlefield: On 6 January, we attacked and dismantled Vietnamese commune office authorities in Snoeng, Battambang District. We killed two and wounded three Vietnamese enemy soldiers; destroyed two AK's; and liberated three villages: Baoh Khlei, Ba Sre, and Snoeng.

6 Villages 'Liberated'

BK110602 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Battle report from various battlefields]

[Excerpts] North Battambang battlefield: On 6 January, we attacked and dispersed the Vietnamese administration at Ta Pon commune, Sangke District. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers. We seized 2 AK's, 200 rounds of AK ammunition and some war materiel and liberated 4 villages, namely, Kouk Kduoch, Andong Chenh, Ang, and Samraong.

On 4 January, we attached the Vietnamese position at Mechhba in Sangke District on North Battambang battlefield. We killed two Vietnamese soldiers and wounded four others. We destroyed two AK's and some war materiel and liberated two villages, namely, Pring and Svay Ta Sek.

Vietnamese Kill, Burn Homes

BK110627 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] On 4 January, the Vietnamese enemy drove Cambodian people in the area between Kompong Chhang town and Phsa Kraom from their houses in order to confiscate the houses and property of our people for Vietnamese nationals. When our people refused to leave their houses, the Vietnamese fired at and killed many inhabitants. They then burned down 162 houses and all the property and took away any rice that did not get burned.

Our people who survived the shooting by the Vietnamese enemy have been struggling against the Vietnamese enemy. Our people and the local authorities and Cambodian soldiers forcibly armed by the Vietnamese enemy in this town and the suburban areas have joined in this struggle against the Vietnamese enemy. Kompong Chhnang town is becoming chaotic.

We vehemently condemn this barbarous and cruel crime of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and race exterminators. We call on our people, the village, and commune administrators forcibly established by the Vietnamese enemy and the Cambodian soldiers in Kompong Chhnang Province to fight on against the Vietnamese enemy. If you join hands, you will certainly win in your struggle against the Vietnamese enemy. We also call on our national army launching activities nearby to join with our people in fighting against the Vietnamese enemy.

/8918
CSO: 4212/45

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

SIHANOUK RE NEW YEAR MESSAGE--To His Excellency Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs. My wife and I would like to express our profound thanks to you, to the leaders and cadres of the Democratic Kampuchea Party, to the Democratic Kampuchean people, and to the heroic National Army of Democratic Kampuchea for your message and greetings on the occasion of the universal New Year. I would like to present my warm and friendly wishes that you, the leaders and cadres of Democratic Kampuchea, as well as the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea enjoy the best of health and score many more great victories in the historic struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors and colonialists. Please, your excellency, accept my highest and most sincere regards. [Signed] Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea Beijing, 6 January 1986 [6 January message of thanks from DK President Sihanouk to Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, for his new year greetings] [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 Jan 86 BK] /8918

JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER GREETED--To His Excellency Shintaro Abe, foreign minister of Japan, Tokyo. Excellency, I am very elated to know that you have been reappointed as foreign minister of Japan. Please accept my warmest congratulations and my greetings for your own happiness and for the complete success of your noble mission. I take this opportunity to express my profound thanks to you and, through you, to the Japanese Government and people for their sympathy, assistance, and support for the just struggle of the Cambodian people and the CGDK for the survival of their nation against foreign aggression and occupation. May the traditional friendly relations and cooperation between our two peoples and countries always develop and strengthen. Highest regards. Democratic Kampuchea, 30 December 1985. [Signed] Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs. [30 December greetings message from Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, to Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe on his reappointment] [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Jan 86 BK] /8918

GREETINGS FROM EGYPT'S MUBARAK--To Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea. On the occasion of the New Year, I am happy to express sincere congratulations and wish that you enjoy good health and happiness and that the friendly Cambodian people enjoy prosperity and glory. May the New Year bring happiness, well-being, and security to all peoples the world over begin peace and serenity for mankind. [Signed] Mohammed Husni Mubarak ["New Year message from Egyptian President Mubarak to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea"] [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Jan 86 BK] /8918

CSO: 4212/45

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

SPK LISTS EIGHT 'SALIENT' EVENTS OF 1985

BK070759 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1128 GMT 6 Jan 86

["Events"--SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 6--1985 in Kampuchea began with the sixth National Day (January 7) of the People's Republic and was marked by eight other salient events which are recalled here chronologically to illustrate the steady advance of this independent, sovereign state.

--January-March: The Kampuchea Revolutionary Armed Forces, with the assistance of the Vietnamese volunteer army and the support of the population, overrun all the 16 main hideouts of the enemy along the Kampuchean-Thai border. According to official statistics, they wiped out 10,000 enemy troops, captured hundreds of others and seized about 15,000 weapons and hundreds of tonnes of supplies. They also shot down one Thai aircraft flying cover for the Khmer reactionaries and blew up 24 vehicles and thousands of tonnes of ammunition.

--January 10-14: The eighth session of the National Assembly which adopted a report on the execution of financial and budgetary tasks in 1983, a resolution on the implementation of financial tasks in 1984, and the draft budget for 1985. The National Assembly also approved the policies regarding the peasantry, minority ethnic groups and the private economic sector, adopted the previous year by the national conference of cadres of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea.

--April: The fourth partial withdrawal of the Vietnam of [as received] volunteer army following a decision jointly taken by the governments of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The force pulled out consisted of an infantry division and four technical brigades belonging to group 52, and three unattached brigades, the 7703rd, 7706th, 9906th.

--July 17-21: The ninth session of the National Assembly with the adoption of a decree on the creation of the Ministry of Economic and Cultural Cooperation with Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and the setting up of the Ministry of War Invalids and Social Actions, the People's Supreme Court and the Public Prosecutors Office.

—August 15-16: The 11th half-yearly conference of the foreign ministers of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos which set 1990 as the date for the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer forces.

The communique on the conference also declared Kampuchea's readiness to start talks with various Khmer opposition groups or individuals in order to discuss the achievement of national reconciliation on the basis of the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot clique. Election will be held following the total withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer forces from Kampuchea, the communique adds.

—September: The 12th plenum of the PRPK Central Committee decided to convene the fifth PRPK Congress. The plenum also decided to push up the implementation of the six-point clemency policy regarding people led astray by the enemy.

As a result, 4,170 people intoxicated by enemy propaganda reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities from January to October. About 70 per cent of the people crossed over as a result of persuasion by their own relatives.

—October 13-16: The fifth congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, which decided to take the country to socialism through transitional steps, unanimously adopted the political report presented by the Central Committee and the draft amendments to the party status.

It worked out the strategic tasks and set three objectives for the Kampuchean revolution.

The congress decided on orientations for socioeconomic rehabilitation and development, approved the first five-year programme for socioeconomic rehabilitation (1986-1990), and set the tasks and orientations for party building at the new stage.

The congress pointed out that revolution was the cause of masses, and that revolutionary power served the people in defending the gains of the revolution. A new Central Committee with 31 full members and 14 candidate members, was unanimously elected, with Heng Samrin re-elected general secretary.

/6662
CSO: 4200/533

LEADERS RECEIVE NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS FROM USSR

BK090701 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0422 GMT 8 Jan 86

[Text] Phnom Penh, 8 Jan (SPK)--Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, and Hun Sen, chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers, received a warm greetings message from the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the Council of Ministers of the USSR on the occasion of the national day of the PRK. The message said, among other things:

The founding of the PRK was a historic gain of the courageous Cambodian people in their struggle for freedom and independence. During the past 7 years, the Cambodian workers have won considerable successes in the elimination of the serious consequences of the criminal Pol Pot regime, the consolidation of the revolutionary gains, and a real economic, social, and cultural rebirth. The fifth KPRP Congress which was held recently has approved the first 5-year program of continuous revival and all-round socioeconomic development of the young republic. Its resolutions constitute further confirmation of loyalty to the chosen line.

To arrive at the assigned objectives, the Cambodian people are compelled to work in a difficult situation marked by the incessant maneuvers of the imperialist and reactionary forces. The firmness and determination of people's Cambodia in the defense of its revolutionary gains and its peace-loving foreign policy have won it the profound respect of the Soviet people.

The PRK is today a solid link of the community of Indochinese countries, outpost of the forces of peace and social progress in Southeast Asia. The constructive initiatives put forth by Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos in order to improve the situation in the region and turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation bear great international importance. Their implementation would contribute to consolidating security in Asia as a whole.

We are satisfied to note that Soviet-Cambodian relations are deepening and strengthening with every passing year on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The Soviet Union will continue to tighten the bonds of friendship and all-sided cooperation with the PRK and to invariably accord its support to the Cambodian people in their struggle for social progress in the interest of national sovereignty, peace, and security in Southeast Asia.

We wish you and all Cambodian workers new successes in the implementation of the Fifth KPRP Congress resolutions, national rebirth, and Cambodia's advance toward socialism.

/9604
CSO: 4219/21

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

LEADERS GREETED BY BULGARIA, HUNGARY, INDIA

BK130736 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0429 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Phnom Penh, 13 Jan (SPK)--On the occasion of the 7 January national day, the leaders of the PRK received warm greetings from their Bulgarian, Hungarian, and Indian counterparts.

The message signed by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, and Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and sent to Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, and Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PRK, praised the gradual development of Cambodia in all fields during the past 7 years under the KPRP's leadership.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria, the message went on, highly appreciates the PRK's foreign policy of peace pursued jointly with Vietnam and Laos to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation.

The message wished for a happy development of the bonds of friendship and close cooperation between Bulgaria and Cambodia.

On the same occasion, Hun Sen, minister of foreign affairs, also received warm greetings from his Bulgarian counterpart Petur Mladenov.

In their message sent to General Secretary Heng Samrin and Chairman Hun Sen, Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party; Pal Lozonczi, chairman of the Presidential Council of Hungary; and Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers, said:

"Our people highly appreciate the results obtained by the Cambodian people in national reconstruction. We are convinced that your efforts aimed at consolidating revolutionary gains and building a new society will win new successes and will effectively favor the implementation of the tasks assigned by the fifth congress of your party.

"We are happy to note that the relations between the Hungarian People's Republic and the PRK do not cease to develop in conformity with the aspirations of the two peoples and in favor of common cause: socialism and peace," the message said in conclusion.

For their part, Zail Singh, president of the republic, and Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India, said in their message to Heng Samrin and Hun Sen that they were convinced that the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries will further strengthen day after day.

On the same occasion, Baliram Bhagat, Indian minister of foreign affairs, also sent his fraternal greetings to PRK Minister of Foreign Affairs Hun Sen.

/9604
CSO: 4219/21

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

LEADERS GREET ALBANIAN COUNTERPARTS ON NATIONAL DAY

BK111455 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1130 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 11--Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and president of the State Council; and Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, have warmly greeted Albanian leaders on the 40th anniversary of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania [PSRA] (Jan. 11).

In a joint message to Ramiz Alia, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania [PLA--name of party and acronym as received] and president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and Adil Carcani, chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Kampuchean leaders say:

"The proclamation of Albania the People's Socialist Republic of Albania was a brilliant victory and a historic event.

The Albanian people are proud of the victories obtained under the clearsighted leadership of the PLA. In the past 40 years they have been successfully building a prosperous PSRA.

"The Kampuchean people", the Kampuchean leaders go on, "rejoice at and warmly hail the success recorded by the Albanian people. The Kampuchea-Albania friendship and cooperation, based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism [as received], will further develop with every passing day."

The Kampuchean leaders conclude by expressing their belief that the existing ties of friendship between the two peoples and countries will constantly develop in their common interests and in favour of the struggle against imperialism and other reactionary forces.

Foreign Minister Hun Sen has also sent his greetings to his Albanian counterpart, Reis Malile.

/6662
CSO: 4200/533

SPK CITES PASASON ON WU VISIT TO THAILAND

BK080744 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0415 GMT 8 Jan 86

[Text] Phnom Penh, 8 Jan (SPK)--The visit to Thailand in late December by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian is new proof of the collusion between the ultrareactionaries in the Thai leadership and the Chinese expansionist-hegemonists in opposing the three Indochinese countries and threatening peace and stability in Southeast Asia, commented the Lao paper PASASON last Friday [3 January].

To justify this collusion, Bangkok and Beijing are seeking every means possible to distort the situation in Cambodia and denigrate the presence of the Vietnamese volunteers in this country, said the paper which added:

To woo the Thai reactionaries, Beijing has unceasingly said it has stopped supporting the pro-Chinese movement in Thailand, but in reality, it still continues supporting this movement.

The ultrarightist ruling circles in Thailand have intentionally ignored this hypocritical attitude of Beijing by plunging more and more deeply into the Chinese expansionist and aggressive path, remarked PASASON. Starting from trade relations, Bangkok has set up political collusion and is now engaging in military collusion with the Chinese expansionists.

Whenever the Indochinese countries have advanced reasonable proposals for solving the Cambodian problem and the question of peace and stability in the region, Beijing slandered this effort and Bangkok promptly supported Beijing.

Over the past several years, all Beijing's allegations and acts of sabotage have been aimed at boosting the morale of the Pol Pot group and other Cambodian reactionaries in order to use them against the revival of the Cambodian people, concluded PASASON.

/9604
CSO: 4219/21

CORRECTNESS OF COURSE CHOSEN BY PEOPLE AFFIRMED

BK070913 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 6--The two most resounding victories last year--the military exploits along the Kampuchean-Thai border in the 1984-85 dry season and the success of the fifth congress of the People's Revolutionary Party last October--clearly proved the correctness of the course chosen by the party to build the People's Republic of Kampuchea, editorializes the weekly KAMPUCHEA in its current issue.

The paper notes that the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces of Kampuchea, in cooperation with the Vietnamese volunteer army, dismantled all important hideouts of the Polpotists and other Khmer reactionaries, blocking all their infiltration routes from Thailand. This victory note only foiled all subversive enemy attempts but also demoralized them to a great extent. It also showed the strength of the PRAFK in defending the revolution, safeguarding the people's right to live in an independent state developing in the direction of socialism.

The paper further says that the PRK Government's six-point clemency policy has won many thousands of people led astray by the enemy. From January to October, it says, 4,170 such people reported themselves to the revolutionary administration and returned to their home villages to embark on a new life with their families.

On the fifth party congress, the paper says that it thoroughly analysed and reviewed the six factors of the Kampuchean revolution and defined strategic tasks, formulated domestic and foreign policies, and tabled a five-year socioeconomic-cultural programme for 1986-90. The congress decided to build the party into a genuine Marxist-Leninist party, to safeguard national independence and to take Kampuchea to socialism through transitional steps, the paper stresses.

The paper says that the Kampuchean people, strong with these successes, are entering into 1986 with optimism and with full confidence in their final victory.

"We have full confidence in our own strength and we have real friends, among them our Vietnamese and Lao comrades-in-arms who stood with us throughout the national liberation struggle against the French colonialists, the Japanese militarists, and the U.S. imperialists and who are standing with us against the Beijing expansionists and other international reactionary forces," the paper affirms.

/6662
CSO: 4200/533

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

HUN SEN AT STATE INSPECTORATE MEETING--Phnom Penh SPK January 6--The State Inspectorate founded four years ago to help promoting the people's mastery, is making itself felt more and more in public life in conformity with the line of the party and the state. The people, fully aware of their right as master of the country and trusting in the competence of the commission, have sent petitions to state inspectorate offices and to the public grievance bureau. Most of the petitions have been settled satisfactorily. Director Sin Song in his recent annual report, highly praised the efforts of all offices in their work. He also spoke of their strong points and shortcomings, and of measures to improve their competence. Premier Hun Sen, who was present at the year-end meeting, pointed to the need for inspection of all activities so as to guarantee justice to the people. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1240 GMT 6 Jan 86 BK] /6662

ETHIOPIAN GREETING--Phnom Penh, 11 Jan (SPK)--Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State, received a message of warm congratulations from Mengistu Haile-Mariam, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Ethiopian Workers' Party, chairman of the Provisional Military and Administrative Council, and commander-in-chief of Ethiopia's revolutionary armed forces, on the occasion of the seventh national day of Cambodia (7 January). In the message, the Ethiopian leader congratulates the Cambodian people for their successes in defending revolutionary gains and in their resolute struggle against imperialism and reaction. The message expresses the conviction that the Cambodian people will score more victories in building a prosperous socialist society and that the relations of friendship between Ethiopia and Cambodia, based on the principle of proletarian internationalism, will deepen and consolidate further in the interests of the two peoples and progressive forces the world over. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0412 GMT 11 Jan 86] /9604

CSO: 4219/21

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

PROTECTION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS LINES INTENSIFIED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Oct 85 p 3

[Article by Hoang Ban, deputy chief, Post and Telecommunications General Department: "Strengthening Protection of Telecommunications Landlines"]

[Text] Telecommunications landlines are a socialist property owned by the entire people and designed to serve the development and defense of the socialist fatherland.

Telecommunications are considered the nervous system of all social activities and a means of leadership and guidance of the party and revolutionary administration. Due to operational needs and organizational and technical characteristics, telecommunications lines are mostly set up in open air as part of an extremely scattered and widespread network branching out into all regions and areas of the fatherland, and are placed under the jurisdiction of many sectors--post and telecommunications, army, interior affairs, communications and transportation.... Installation and maintenance are very expensive and difficult, adding more importance and complexity to protection. Under thoughtful party and state policies and with the people's wholehearted assistance, our national telecommunications network has unceasingly developed. In recent years, long-distance lines have been urgently set up and diligently safeguarded nationwide, increasingly catering to the telecommunications needs of the party, state and people. Since the end of 1982, under the direct guidance of Pham Hung, CPV Central Committee Political Bureau member, Council of Ministers vice chairman and interior minister, and following symposia on "protecting signal lines" held by the Ministries of Post and Telecommunications and Interior at the central echelon and in provinces, cities, districts and towns, the protection of telecommunications lines has generally proceeded well, Especially on 27 March 1985, the Council of Ministers issued Decree 87/HDBT containing "Regulations on Protecting Telecommunications Landlines," an important state ordinance aimed at reaffirming the importance of telecommunications lines and the entire society's responsibility for assuring their protection. Since these regulations were proclaimed, the protection task has achieved additional progress. Party committee echelons and administration officials at various levels have attentively provided guidance. The Ministries of Post and Telecommunications and Interior have widely disseminated these regulations and have advised local basic party committee echelons on safeguarding telecommunications lines. Since 1982, the northern provinces alone have set up nearly 2,000 people's protection units and stations with tens of thousands of persons watching tens of thousands of km of lines; held study sessions for tens of millions of attendees and hundreds of meetings on telecommunications lines protection at provincial, district and municipal levels; commended hundreds of units, collectives and individuals for outstanding performances; exposed and prosecuted those engaged in stealing, cutting and destroying telecommunications wires, and sentenced serious offenders to jail. Some localities, including Hai Hung and Thanh Hoa, continued to do well, others, including Hanoi, Thai Binh, Ha Bac and Telecommunications Center I (Post and Telecommunications General Department), have made a considerable effort to protect the lines and promptly expose and prosecute offenders. In places doing well or relatively well, the number of cases of stealing, slicing and destroying telecommunications wires has clearly diminished--in some places from 60 to 80 percent down from previous years. In the first 9 months of the year, the number of cases of cutting and destroying class-I wires alone has gone down 33.3 percent and the total of hours of disrupted communications due to severed wires has decreased by 51.7 percent, compared with 1984.

Nevertheless, the protection of telecommunications lines on the whole has not met the Council of Minister's guidelines. At places and times, wire stealing and snipping practices went down only to shoot up later; offenses were uncovered and prosecuted in a sluggish manner and activities aimed at inspecting, following and reporting on the protection process were irregular. It is worth mentioning that some localities and basic installations have not vigorously grasped and implemented the Council of Ministers' regulations and that tangible and detailed guidance was slow-paced, unable to use the strength of that state ordinance as a goad for speeding up the protection of telecommunications lines, making it comprehensive and more efficient.

Currently, to best implement the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee amid complexities caused by storms and floods, telecommunications must more than ever ensure promptness, accuracy, safety and conveniences, to the highest degree and in all circumstances. To that end, we must intensify protection of supplies, equipment and material and technical telecommunications installations, especially telecommunications lines. On the basis of existing legal documents and the recently issued "Regulations on Protecting Telecommunications Land Lines," the post and telecommunications sector must continue to closely coordinate with the Interior Ministry, the army, sectors having their own signal networks, the courts, the control and education sectors, mass organizations especially the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, party committee echelons and local administration officials, to unremittingly teach cadres, workers, civil servants and various popular strata to understand more clearly that protecting telecommunications lines is protecting the revolutionary administration and socialist property. During the rain and storm season, we must safeguard telecommunications lines as we do dikes, implementing the "Regulations on Protecting Telecommunications Land Lines" while complying with the state Penal Code. Along with education, we must urgently and actively accelerate protection measures, perfect the protection stationed along telecommunications lines.
We should ameliorate and speed up the effort to detect, track down, expose and prosecute violations, properly solve new cases and continually improve and reinforce protection procedures and policies. We should properly patrol, guard and conduct intelligence activities round the clock to keep tabs on the situation, promptly exposing, thwarting and prosecuting criminal plots and actions of sabotage. We should mobilize the masses to denounce saboteurs and those engaged in illegally receiving and selling telecommunications wires; strengthen

internal management; purify the ranks and resolutely expel corrupt elements from the forces in charge of building and protecting telecommunications lines.

Displaying negativism, stealing and sabotaging material and technical bases of socialism are tantamount to colluding with the enemies or creating conditions for them to attack us--an aspect of their multiform war of sabotage. Guided by the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the Central Committee and by party and state directives and resolutions, especially the Penal Code and the "Regulations on Protecting Telecommunications Land Lines" by the Council of Ministers, CPV committee echelons, administration officials and the entire people have achieved progress in the movement to protect telecommunications lines. The army and public security particularly have become a key force taking the lead in the movement. Actively overcoming shortcomings and weaknesses and fostering even more the sense of responsibility and socialist collective mastery, the post and telecommunications sector is determined to achieve more progress in protecting telecommunications lines, rapidly putting an end to wire stealing and snipping, unceasingly raising network and information quality and properly serving the building and defense of the Vietnamese socialist fatherland.

9213/7051
CSO: 4209/161

SHIP HIJACKING ATTEMPT FOILED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Oct 85 p 3

[Article by Long An: "'Stifling' a Ship Seizing Attempt"]

[Text] At the end of their assignments on the mainland two public security combatants, Son and Thai, went back to Con Son Island aboard a passenger ship. Because it had to wait for high tide, the ship departed at night.

Among the passengers, Son and Thai noted three pretty girls with furtive glances and ready smiles. Although they had three Guigoz cans of cooked rice, they did not touch them, eating bread and fruit instead. Stimulated by professionalism, Son and Thai paid attention to the girls, who often spoke discreetly in low voices to several men with vicious faces. In early afternoon, the men displayed liquor and food and invited the pilot and some sailors to join in, striving to make them drunk. This could not escape the alert scrutiny of Son and Thai. As these people taking advantage of the confusion, burst into the crew room, Son and Thai promptly occupied the pilot cabin located on top of the ship which was equipped with a shield and a machine-gun. Gunshots in the crew room confirmed Son's and Thai's suspicion that the bandits were attempting to seize the ship. Along with the pilot, Son and Thai used the machine-gun and small arms to restrain the bandits. The three girls opened their Guigoz cans, removed the top layer of rice, picked up the hand grenades hidden underneath and hurriedly delivered them to their accomplices. The latter tried to throw these hand grenades into the pilot cabin but were pinned down by a barrage of fire which killed several of the assailants.

People in the crew room were overwhelmed by the bandits, but a female cadre was able to report through a walkie-talkie that "the ship is being hijacked." Immediately, forces on the coast, the sea and the island, consisting of the Navy, border guards, public security and militia and self-defense forces, launched a joint combat operation. In the engine room, upon hearing the gunshots, Tu Den, a self-defense force member, closed the door, preparing to fight with an AK submachine-gun. The bandits tried to smash the door but were pushed back by Tu Den with volleys of gunfire. At first, Tu Den intended to stop the engine; however, after communicating with the pilot cabin and realizing that we still controlled the situation, he increased speed and the ship raced at full steam toward Con Son Island.

A moment later, Navy and public security ships and militia and self-defense forces boats converged on the ship with the bandits aboard. Aware of the futility of their resistance, the bandits laid down their arms in surrender. At the wharf, under orders of valiant people's public security combatants, the bandits stepped one by one onto the bank with their arms over their heads. The three girls' eyes, which ogled in the morning, were now looking down to avoid Son's and Thai's stares. Passengers aboard were overjoyed and many of them were in tears. They had just escaped a calamity and their hearts were filled with admiration for and gratefulness to public security combatants, the Army and militia and self-defense forces.

9213/7051
CSO: 4209/161

SECURITY PROBLEMS IN DONG HY DISTRICT

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Oct 85 p 2

[Article by Pham Hong Chuc: "Dong Hy, Security Belt of Thai Nguyen City"]

[Text] Dong Hy District is compared to a shield for Thai Nguyen City. It has struggled without interruption to overcome difficulties in building itself into a strong security barrier and a solid gate capable of protecting the entire city.

Speaking of the security situation in Dong Hy, both past and present, Nguyen Van Hoi, district public security chief, affirmed that while it looked quiet outside it was tense and fierce inside, inasmuch as the district once served as a sanctuary for many reactionary political parties and spies. Especially during the resistance war against the French, hostile plots of sabotage were launched from Dong Hy against the Viet Bac revolutionary base. The enemy made use of ethnic montagnards and Catholics to divide the people, incite them to oppose CPV lines and policies and encourage Catholic youths to neither join the Army nor bear arms against the enemy. In peacetime, the Vong A Kha pirate group stealthily continued to disrupt order in distant mountain and forest areas. That reactionary priest clandestinely urged Catholic faithful to antagonize state lines and policies, capitalizing on the Bible to spread slanderous propaganda.

At present, Dong Hy still remains a vital area. All communication lines from Thai Nguyen City to the provinces pass through the district. In the face of the enemy multiform war of sabotage, the district party committee and people's committee have devoted more attention to leadership, guiding the building of a mass movement to protect the nation's security.

The whole party organization held lively meetings, conducting strict self-reviews, promptly correcting wrong views and concepts and fostering member militancy. Simultaneously, it launched a campaign to mobilize the masses to act "for the sake of the fatherland's security." Populous key installations and many organs and schools were singled out for a drastic effort to solve cases of disturbing public order and security. Experienced district public security cadres were sent into these centers to aid them and coordinate with local forces to sweep the area clean. Villagers throughout the district have vigorously denounced the activities of malefactors. Dubious political elements and potential felons were put under close surveillance to prevent them from banding together to foment disturbances. A short time after the campaign was launched, thousands of valuable reports were collected and sorted out, including more than 500 letters exposing negative phenomena and ruffian gangs. Due to that input, many legal riddles were promptly unraveled and ringleaders of bandit groups were arrested and sent to trial or brought before the masses for criticism.

With the people in Dong Hy resolutely counteracting negative phenomena, social order in the district has moved toward stability by leaps and bounds. That does not mean evildoers have called it quits; instead, they have resorted to retaliatory tactics, slyly threatening zealous informants, destroying subsidiary food crops, riceplants and seedlings and writing anonymous letters to defy and malign cadres. In Catholic areas, they incited the people to interrupt production, flock to the Bac Ninh Church (Ha Bac) to attend Masses and demand that the local administration allow them to expand the church and organize more prayer sessions and that agricultural tax be reduced. Worse still, taking advantage of policies toward nationalities and Catholicism, they exhorted backward youths not to comply with the law on military obligations. However, their activities have become futile with the people's political security movement reaching a plateau and with people's security units from isolated and far-away montagnard villages to populous areas picking up strength. Branching out into factories, enterprises and schools, that movement has become an impenetrable security network. People in areas haunted by evildoers now have more confidence in public order and security forces, carrying on production with serenity and assurance and enthusiastically assisting grassroots security cadres in working well.

As an industrial city, Thai Nguyen continues to function normally and as the big "heart" of Bac Thai Province, it harmoniously keeps pace with daily life. Public security forces and other forces in Dong Hy and Thai Nguyen City have fused into a bloc, ready to fight and ensure protection. At communications centers leading to the city, combatants in charge of control have maintained high-quality work, resolutely and skillfully battling attempts to disturb order and security and seizing many shipments of unauthorized and smuggled goods.

In recent years, Dong Hy has achieved stability and vigor in defending political security and social order and safety, deservingly acting as an impregnable security belt for that rich, beautiful and quiet iron-steel city. On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victorious August Revolution and the 2 September Independence Day and the 40th anniversary of the establishment of people's public security, the Dong Hy public security forces were honored with a Military Exploit Order 1st Class by the Council of State.

9213/9423
CSO: 4209/162

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ARMY CONDUCTS NEW GENERAL INVENTORY

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Oct 85 p 3

[Article by Col Nguyen Dinh Loc: "Army Conducts General Inventory, Reevaluation of Fixed Assets"]

[Text] Implementing Decision 157/HDBT of the Council of Ministers, the defense minister recently issued a directive on a general inventory and reevaluation of fixed assets of production units throughout the Army, starting from 0:00 hour on 1 October 1985.

The current general inventory and reevaluation of fixed assets was designed to help sectors and basic units throughout the army to collect more accurate information on fixed assets and their production capabilities, recompute their value at prices uniformly set by the state, redetermine the fixed capital of basic units to acquire data for a subsequent rational appraisal of manufacturing and depreciation costs and dispose of fixed assets which are no longer productive. On this basis, sectors, echelons and basic units will study ways to rationally and effectively use existing fixed assets and make plans for repairing, rehabilitating, renovating and modernizing equipment to meet the Army's ever-growing needs--first of all, to help shape the new 5-year plan (1986-1990).

Consequently, the current general inventory and reevaluation of fixed assets, if properly done, will create conditions for us to implement guidelines contained in the resolution of the CPV Central Committee Eighth Plenum (Session V) on eliminating flat-allocation bureaucratism and resolutely switching to economic accounting and socialist business in military basic production units.

The current general inventory and reevaluation of military fixed assets involves industrial production units and shops, capital construction units, agricultural production units, units engaged in state economic production and some units in charge of transportation and supply of technical provisions directly serving production and building and under the jurisdiction of general departments, military regions, military services, corps and armies throughout the armed forces. The number of basic units taking part in the current drive is twice as large as the one involved in the general inventory and reevaluation of fixed assets in 1980.

The current drive is aimed at fixed assets.

According to existing state regulations (Circular 13-TC/DT-XD of 10 March 1985 of the Ministry of Finance), means of labor satisfying the two following conditions are classified as fixed assets: (1) assets valued at 10,000 dong and more (former currency) and (2) in use for more than 1 year.

Equipment, weapons, machinery, supplies and estates are not included in the current general inventory.

Thus, the general inventory to reevaluate fixed assets is different from the annual general inventory of equipment, machinery, supplies and estates. Illustrating that difference further is the fact that along with inventorying to get accurate quantitative data, we must reappraise the value of fixed assets and the production capabilities of basic units. Assessing the degree of actual wear and tear of fixed assets to determine their value is different from the usual practice of classifying machinery and equipment into five groups. Reappraisal of the value of fixed assets must be based on the remaining percent of their usability and on the 1985 inventory prices uniformly set by the state.

Hence, in the current inventory, the value of each fixed asset as well as the total fixed capital of each basic unit are reappraised in line with technical realities and new prices (the 1985 inventory prices)--a process designed to achieve uniformity and level price discrepancies originating from many factors in the past.

In recent days, aware of the meaning and importance of the general inventory and reevaluation of fixed assets, all military organs and basic units have zealously made preparations, putting their organization in order and providing inventory training to cadres so that basic units could begin the campaign on schedule.

The general inventory and reevaluation of fixed assets throughout the Army consists of two stages. The first one calls for factual inventory and evaluation. This is the most important stage inasmuch as its results will decisively affect those of the entire inventory.

During that stage, we must itemize all assets, visually counting each piece of machinery and equipment and refraining from basing reports on account books. Assets already damaged but not yet disposed of and those temporarily unused must be fully inventoried and reported. Along with itemization, we must accurately assess the value of fixed assets, correctly using methods and standards set by the state to determine the degree of wear and tear of machinery and equipment.

During the second stage, complete and accurate reports must be submitted to superior echelons according to ministerial regulations.

Since 1 October 1985, all basic military units have inventoried and reevaluated their fixed assets including machinery and equipment, making inventory receipts and conducting reappraisal right after each tally. Leadership cadres have exerted control, guiding subordinate units to solve vocational and technical snags arising from the inventory process, especially from ways to determine the degree of wear and tear of fixed assets and their costs.

According to preliminary reports of the Rear Service and Technical General Departments--the two units with large numbers of fixed assets slated for inventory--the former has inspected 90 percent of units making the inventory. As of 12 October, basic units have catalogued and appraised 50 percent of fixed assets slated for inventory. The Technical General Department has inspected 20 percent of units making the inventory. Those units being inspected have determined the degree of wear and tear of most fixed assets and are entering these data in inventory receipts and conducting reevaluation.

At that pace, the two general departments are expected to complete the second inventory stage right on schedule.

9213/9423
CSO: 4209/162

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

PROPER CASH MANAGEMENT IN MILITARY UNITS URGED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Oct 85 pp 1,4

[Editorial: "Management of Cash"]

[Text] Cash is a means of circulation. Proper cash management will contribute to strengthening the value of currency and adequate serving production and livelihood. Each year, the Army is authorized to use large amounts of cash to meet combat, production and consumer needs and build its units. In the days to come, it will spend even more cash as steps are being taken to improve the wage system and adjust prices. Thus, properly managing cash means not only properly meeting Army needs, but also contributing to properly serving commodity production and circulation.

In recent years, cash management in units and echelons has achieved limited progress. Cash payments and withdrawals were better planned and many units have paid attention to overcoming excessive cash storage in vaults, restricting cash dumping in the process. However, cash management in general is still weak. In many units, plans for using cash are out of touch with realities; spending is lax and inappropriate and inordinately large amounts of cash are deposited in bank accounts and stored in vaults. Some organs and enterprises still misappropriate national defense capital, devoting great amounts of cash to purchasing supplies and consumer goods at high prices. Many units engaged in economic production keep posting slow and small returns on their investments and there still is a "special fund"--to be exact, an illegal "black fund"--in some units and echelons.

Cash management is an important task in financial and economic management in units and echelons. For proper cash management, two shortcomings should be corrected: (1) too late and too insufficient cash allocations apt to impede production, work and livelihood and (2) unprincipled use of cash. Accordingly, cash flow should be well planned; units and echelons should mindfully make plans to use cash according to their own needs and capital availability. With this in mind, they should withdraw and allocate cash in keeping with plans and with production, work and livelihood needs, ensuring that money is logically spent, and that appropriations for a specific task are not diverted to other uses, thus affecting the pace of task completion and the payment of wages and subsidies to the Army. They should correctly comply with regulations on cash storage at each echelon and for each period and with cash disbursement principles and procedures. They should make transfer payments in line with regulations and should not give other agencies and individuals unqualified access to their own organs' capital. In disposing of cash, units should improve bookkeeping, strictly handling cash receipts and expenditures. Those engaged in economic production should find ways, besides their general task of cash management, to increase profitability through planning aimed at expanding production scales, generating brisk sales, avoiding capital stagnancy and multiplying returns, so that small amounts of money can well fulfill the evergrowing needs of production development.

Experience in units with outstanding financial management performances indicates that, to achieve proper cash management, it is imperative to strengthen inspection by way of regular and periodic checks. Only through that process can errors in implementing cash receipts and disbursements procedures be promptly exposed and thwarted.

In assisting units in properly handling cash, superior organs and responsible sectors should make sure to allocate enough cash to units, distribute commodities and supplies under unified state business management to units according to plans, on schedule and in a convenient manner and resolutely overcome all bureaucratic and cumbersome procedures apt to impede prompt cash disbursements.

While doing cash management, all units and echelons must pay attention to disbursing cash with thriftiness, actively making the most of their own capital, striving to accelerate production growth and increasing revenue in order to balance expenditures and contribute to alleviating state difficulties.

9213/9423
CSO: 4209/162

STRICT PROHIBITION OF ILLEGAL GASOLINE SALES URGED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 29 Oct 85 p 2

[Article by Mai Phong: "Strict, Immediate Prohibition of Purchases and Sales of Gasoline, Oil"]

[Text] Along National Routes 1, 2 and 5, we often saw many people retailing gasoline and oil. Some openly displayed on a bench in front of their homes or stores a bottle of gasoline and a bottle of oil. They bought gas and oil at low prices for resale to motorcyclists running out of gas at prices 150 percent or 200 percent higher than the purchasing prices. Even some automobiles inadvertently running out of fuel were compelled to buy it from them. From where did these people get gas and oil so that they could resell it regularly and publicly? During observation trips, we saw truck and tankcar drivers stopping their vehicles in front of stores to pump gas for sale to store owners at agreed-upon prices. It is worth noting that responsible organs have let the gas and oil retail trade propser openly without any restraint and have created conditions for tanker drivers to violate state property.

At Unit D10361, drivers were required to pay a flat fee of 1,500 dong (former currency) and allowed to pocket the remaining profit. This has given rise to a disorderly gas and oil trade on the highways. It is regrettable that gas and oil management has received little attention in many units and almost no attention in some.

Units should closely control their gas and oil stocks and should take steps to promptly thwart the gas and oil trade in the free market in order to properly protect state and Army property.

7213/7051
CSO: 4209/161

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

SRV, SOVIET LEADERS ATTEND SECOND DAMMING OF DA RIVER

OW101147 Hanoi VNA in English 0824 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Jan (VNA)--The second damming of the Da River at the construction site of the Hoa Binh hydro-electric power plant being built with Soviet assistance in Ha Son Binh Province, 60 km west of Hanoi, was completed this afternoon.

The work began with a ceremony jointly organised by the Ministry of Construction, the Ministry of Electricity, and the People's Committee of Ha Son Binh Province.

Present at the ceremony on the Vietnamese side were Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Huu Tho, vice president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly; and many other high party and state officials.

The Soviet side included Nikolay Talizin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, first vice chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers and head of the Soviet party and government delegation currently on a visit here; and B.N. Chaplin, Soviet ambassador to Vietnam.

Also present at the ceremony were leaders of the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance who are attending the 37th session of the CMEA Committee for Cooperation in Planning in Hanoi and ambassadors of the socialist countries to Vietnam.

Addressing the ceremony, Minister of Construction Pham Ngoc Tuong reviewed the colossal volume of work accomplished by the Vietnamese workers and Soviet experts in preparation for the second damming of the Da River which, he said, aims at putting the first generator group of the plant into operation by the end of 1987.

In his speech, Soviet First Prime Minister Nikolay Talizin described the Hoa Binh hydro-electric power plant as the biggest of its kind in Southeast Asia and one of the key projects being built within the framework of the Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation. He expressed his joy at the achievements of the Soviet experts and Vietnamese workers in carrying out the tempo of construction as scheduled.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman Pham Van Dong, on behalf of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Council of Ministers and the Vietnamese people, expressed his profound gratitude to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, C.P.S.U. General Secretary M. Gorbachev personally, and the entire Soviet people for their comprehensive, devoted and effective assistance to the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people the concrete manifestation of which, he said, is their assistance to Vietnam in building the Hoa Binh hydro-electric plant on the Da River.

Chairman Pham Van Dong called on all the workers and experts at the construction site to step up socialist labour emulation movements to obtain achievements in honour of the coming 6th Congress of the C.P.V. and 27th Congress of the C.P.S.U.

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CSO: 4200/537

POLAND'S JARUZELSKI MEETS CHU HUY MAN DELEGATION

OW121029 Hanoi VNA in English 0815 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 11 Jan (VNA)--Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee and president of the Polish State Council, cordially received in Warsaw on 8 January a visiting delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) led by Chu Huy Man, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee.

Wojciech Jaruzelski highly valued the traditional friendship and mutual understanding between the two parties and two peoples. He stressed that the visit to Poland this time by the Vietnamese party delegation contributes to strengthening the relations between the two parties and shows that Vietnam and Poland have always stood by each other's side.

The Polish leader reaffirmed the Poland's unswerving support for the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people.

Chu Huy Man conveyed to Wojciech Jaruzelski the invitation of the Vietnamese Party Central Committee and its General Secretary Le Duan for an official visit to Vietnam.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Poland Nguyen Trong Thuat was present on the occasion.

The reception took place in a warm atmosphere of fraternal friendship and solidarity.

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CSO: 4200/537

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

CSSR'S POTAC ARRIVES FOR HANOI CEMA MEETING

LD072202 Prague CTK in English 1643 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 7 Jan (CTK correspondent)--A Czechoslovak delegation, led by Deputy Premier Svatopluk Potac, arrived here today to attend the 37th session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA) Committee for Cooperation in Planning which starts tomorrow.

Participants in the meeting will discuss the conclusions of the 41st (extraordinary) CEMA session which adopted a comprehensive program of scientific technological progress of the CEMA member countries up to the year 2000. Special attention will be paid to the development of direct relations between organizations and plans of the CEMA member states.

Head of the Czechoslovak delegation Svatopluk Potac met here today with Vietnamese first vice-premier and chairman of the Vietnamese part of the Czechoslovak-Vietnamese Committee for Economic and Scientific Technological Cooperation Tran Quynh. They exchanged views on some topics of mutual economic and scientific technological cooperation in connection with the final talks on bilateral coordination of national economic plans for 1986-1990.

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CSO: 4200/526

GDR, SRV SIGN PLAN COORDINATION PROTOCOL

LD102109 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1410 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Jan (ADN)--A protocol on the results of the coordination of the economic plans between the GDR and Vietnam for the period 1986-1990 was signed in Hanoi on Friday by the chairman of the two countries' planning commissions, Gerhard Schuerer and Vo Van Kiet.

Cooperation for the 5-year plan period 1986-1990 will center on increased joint efforts aimed at the comprehensive intensification of the two countries' economies and on efforts to increase economic efficiency. Both sides agreed to increase trade significantly in comparison with the period 1981-1985.

The GDR is taking part in the development of Vietnamese agriculture and forestry, and light and foodstuffs industry and geology through the supply of machinery and equipment, materials, pesticides and other products.

Cooperation in the production of raw coffee, rubber, textile products and other items which contribute to strengthening the economy and increasing Vietnam's export strength have been agreed. Areas of focus in scientific and technical cooperation have also been agreed.

Over and beyond this, the GDR is to supply lifting gear and transport equipment, W50 trucks printing and textile machinery, medical technology, scientific equipment and communications and computer equipment.

Vietnam's exports to the GDR include in particular raw coffee, rubber, chrome ore, fresh and processed southern fruits, tea spices, arts and crafts goods and textile products. It was agreed on the basis of the signed protocol to prepare at short notice the long-term trade agreement for the period 1986-1990 and other necessary agreements and to conclude commercial contracts.

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CSO: 4620/18

NHAN DAN MARKS SRV-BULGARIA TRADE ANNIVERSARY

OW100947 Hanoi VNA in English 0726 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Jan (VNA)--The Vietnamese people sincerely thank the communist party, government and people of Bulgaria for their precious assistance, and express their firm belief that the economic and trade cooperation as well as the cooperative relations in other fields between the two countries will be constantly developed," says NHAN DAN today. [quotation marks as received]

In a commentary marking the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first agreement on goods exchange and payment between Vietnam and Bulgaria (Jan. 10, 1956-86), NHAN DAN points out: "Three decades of economic cooperation between Vietnam and Bulgaria have been a vivid manifestation of the relationship of new type among the socialist countries, based on the principles of proletarian internationalism. [sentence as received] The relationship between the two countries has constantly been consolidated and expanded on larger and larger scale and with higher and higher quality."

"With Bulgaria's assistance," the paper notes, "more than 100 projects with whole sets of equipment have appeared in Vietnam such as the brick factories of Phuc Thinh (Hanoi) and Dong Thon (Quang Ninh), the Vinh Phu cannery, the ice plant, fodder plants, the Cau Dien vegetable farm, the Thanh Tho chicken farm, etc., the economic and trade cooperations between the two countries have yielded initial good results, especially in rubber and coffee production.

The balance of trade between the two countries has increased from 24 million rubles in the 1976-80 five-year plan to 40 million rubles in the 1981-85 period.

The paper expresses the belief that in the new five-year plan, a new period in the economic and trade cooperations between the two countries will begin with the implementation of all the already-signed treaties and agreements, which will contribute to further consolidating and developing the solidarity, friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries, and to strengthening the unity among the socialist community.

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CSO: 4200/526

MEETING CELEBRATES ALBANIA'S FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

OW101219 Hanoi VNA in English 0818 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Jan (VNA)—A meeting was held here this morning by the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with Other Peoples [VCSFOP] to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania (11 January). Albanian Ambassador Syria Laze was present.

Speaking at the meeting, Trinh Ngoc Thai, general secretary of the VCSFOP, praised the Albanian people's anti-fascist struggle which led to the foundation of the People's Republic of Albania, now the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, and their great achievements in socialist construction over the past 40 years.

He expressed the Vietnamese people's joy at the constant development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Albania, and wished the Albanian people still greater achievements in their glorious cause under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania.

Taking the floor, the Albanian ambassador expressed the Albanian people's friendly feelings toward and warm support for the Vietnamese people in their national construction and defence. He also expressed his belief that the Albanian-Vietnamese friendship would constantly consolidate and develop.

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CSO: 4200/537

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIANS REITERATED AT MEETING

OW090808 Hanoi VNA in English 0730 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Jan (VNA)—A meeting was held yesterday at the Hanoi College for training teachers for junior high schools to mark the 21st revolutionary day of Palestine (Jan. 1) and the day Palestinian patriots had fallen for the liberation of Palestine (Jan. 7).

The meeting was jointly sponsored by the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples (VCSFOP), the Vietnam AAPSO Committee; the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With the Palestinian People, and the Hanoi VCSFOP chapter.

It was attended by Pham Khac Quang, member of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Palestinian People; Trinh Ngoc Thai, secretary general of the VCSFOP and large numbers of college's teachers and students.

Said Khalil al Mesri [spelling as received], PLO representative in Hanoi, was present.

Addressing the meeting, Pham Khac Quang reaffirmed the Vietnamese People's unswerving solidarity with and support for the Palestinian people's just struggle. He pointed out that an overall equitable and stable political solution to regional issues can only be found on the basis of holding an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the PLO, the only genuine representative of the Palestinian people, the complete withdrawal of the Israeli and U.S. troops from Lebanon and all other Arab territories they are illegally occupying, and Palestinian peoples. "The Palestinian people highly value the principled and consistant stance of the Vietnamese party, government and people in their support and assistance to the Palestinian people's struggle for their legitimate national rights including the right to repatriation and self-determination and the right to set up Palestinian state in their homeland," he said.

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CSO: 4200/526

SRV COMMITTEE GREETS ANC ON ANNIVERSARY

BK081816 Hanoi VNA in English 1706 GMT 8 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi, 8 Jan (VNA)--The Vietnam AAPSO committee Tuesday [7 January] sent its warmest greetings to the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa on its founding anniversary (Jan. 8).

The message says:

Since its foundation, the ANC has led the South African people in the glorious fight full of hardships and sacrifices against the apartheid regime, for freedom, democracy and social equality.

With peerless courage of ANC fighters and the strong approval and support of peace and justice-loving people throughout the world, the South African people's struggle has recorded many successes and ceaselessly developed, and the ANC's prestige has constantly been enhanced on the international arena.

The South African people's current high tide of struggle against the Pretoria rulers' policy of brutal repression has embarked on a new stage in which the armed struggle is closely combined with political struggle so as to firmly abolish the odious apartheid regime and liberate the people and the society. Together with other progressive forces in the world, the Vietnamese people would like to reaffirm their unswerving militant solidarity with that just struggle.

The message wishes the ANC brilliant success in its noble cause, and the militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and South African peoples further consolidation and development.

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CSO: 4200/526

HANOI REVIEWS 1985 INDOCHINA SITUATION

BK110929 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Dear listener: 1985 witnessed the great victories of the three Indochinese countries and a new situation favorable to peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

The most salient feature last year was the steady development in the three Indochinese countries. The summit between Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, the meeting of leaders of the three countries on the 40th National Day of Vietnam, the 10th National Day of Laos, and the 5th Congress of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, and the visit to Laos and Kampuchea by Vietnamese President Truong Chinh further strengthened their special relationship and comprehensive cooperation.

The three Indochinese countries' solidarity and one-mindedness were reflected through their (?unanimity) in their points of view, assessment, and measures to solve the burning questions in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

The 10th and 11th foreign ministerial conferences of the three Indochinese countries respectively held in January and August 1985 with new peace initiatives, especially the decision to conclude the total Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Kampuchea by 1990 and Kampuchea's declaration to be ready to start talks with various Khmer opposition groups or individuals to discuss the realization of national reconciliation on the basis of eliminating the genocidal Pol Pot clique, have helped promote the trend of dialogue in Southeast Asia and created a process of dialogue to solve the question of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the Kampuchean issue. These also showed the three Indochinese countries' cooperation in the diplomatic field.

Another development in Southeast Asia last year was, despite the enemy's large-scale counterattacks, the revolution in the three Indochinese countries still steadily advanced forward, playing the role as a mainstay for peace and social progress in this part of the world.

Contrary to the enemy's design, the situation in Kampuchea was more stable with every passing day. The great military exploits in Kampuchea in the 1984-85 dry season marked a turning point in the military situation in the country. The resounding victories in the military, political, diplomatic, and economic fields, especially the results of the Fifth Congress of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, proved that the Kampuchean people are (?capable) to undertake the tasks of defending and building the country.

Together with the fine developments in the three Indochinese countries, the situation in Southeast Asia last year developed in favor of peace, stability, and cooperation. The process of dialogue was open and promoted after the dialogue held between Vietnam and Indonesia representing the two groups of countries of Indochina and ASEAN.

Together with this, economic, trade, aviation relations, were also set up between some ASEAN and Indochinese countries, first of all, between Vietnam and Indonesia. The exchange of visits by foreign ministers of Vietnam and Indonesia, the first visit to Indonesia by the Vietnamese defense minister, and the exchange of military, economic, trade, and cultural delegations between the two countries, and the symposium of scholars of the two countries have brought the Indo-Vietnamese friendly cooperation toward new developments.

In 1985 the relations between Vietnam and Malaysia and the Philippines, and between Laos and Kampuchea, and those of two countries, were also improved. This demonstrated the development of the already-created trend of dialogue and the policy of peaceful coexistence between the two groups of countries in Southeast Asia.

The developments in 1985 also proved that the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces could neither turn the tide in Indochina nor sabotage the trend for dialogue between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries. This promises further fine developments in this region this year.

Despite the imperialism-reactionary forces' dark designs, the fine developments in Southeast Asia in 1985 showed that peace and stability in the region can be achieved.

Fine prospects are created for both Indochinese and ASEAN countries.

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CSO: 4200/537

COMPLETION OF HIGHWAY LINKING VIETNAM, LAOS REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Nov 85 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Luu: "Phu Lau-Muong Hiem Highway Opened"]

[Text] Traveling smoothly on the brandnew highway from Nam Non through Phu Lau to Muong Hiem, everyone in our joint Vietnamese-Lao technical inspection and reception commission was so delighted and moved that we could hardly hide our feelings. After nearly 5 years of hard and creative work, the Vietnamese road and bridge builders, stimulated by love and support from the Lao people and government, have completed a great and meaningful project. In its final statement, the two-party technical reception commission concluded that the highway was built exactly as planned, with good quality, and its completion was 6 months early.

Making a general evaluation of the project, engineer Le Ngoc Hoan, director general of the Road Construction Federation No 8 (Ministry of Communications and Transportation) told us:

"In my 20 years of helping our friends in building hundreds of kilometers of road, the construction of this highway was among the most difficult, but it was also completed the earliest. The project was a milestone for the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of our 2 September National Day, of the 10th anniversary of the creation of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, and of the 20th anniversary of the organization of our unit. At the project sites, under a close leadership of our Ministry of Communications and Transportation, and with the devoted support of the local population and government, we made rearrangements for a close coordination between units directly in charge of construction, such as Enterprises Nos 572 and 675, the Birdge Enterprise No 75, survey and planning enterprises, and other units responsible for material supplies, machinery, human and medical services, etc., creating an integrated force that was conducive to higher productivity, quality and efficiency."

The Phu Lau-Muong Hiem Highway, a transverse artery linking the two longitudinal Highways 1A and 6 in the territory of Hua Phan Province, is entirely located in a chain of high mountains and snakes its way through extremely rugged passes that are continuously shrouded in dense fog all year round. The geological constitution of the area is complex, consisting of sandy rocks, sand, clay and loose gravel, and big landslides frequently occur in heavy rain. Of the 3.5 million cubic meters of total mass of earth excavated or filled, 140,000 cubic meters came from landslides. The climate is inclement, and material supplies and food have to be hauled a long distance from our country.

Speaking about the chief causes allowing his unit to achieve early completion of the highway, Comrade Ngo Xuan Luong, a dynamic director who had made his way to his top position from the rank of worker in Enterprise No 572 which had been collectively awarded the title of Working Hero by our government, affirmed:

"Our unit has developed to the optimum the strength of all its components. Party members in the unit were always the first in handling any task and showed an exemplary spirit. The unit party committee always met its ethical standards, and in 10 years, it enrolled 108 new members. The Youth Union which made up 75 percent of the direct work force, was the assault element that took care of the most difficult and strenuous tasks. In conjunction with a system of work contracting to each team and group, we delineated work progress since the start of the year and provided leadership accordingly. We paid special attention to mechanical equipment, and due to good maintenance operations, operator training and spare part readiness, we increased the work volume by mechanized equipment by 70 percent. Many groups, teams and individuals became leaders in matter of productivity such as Surfacing Groups Nos 7 and 10 of Tran Quoc Viet and Bui Quang Thieu, Rock Production Group No 5 of Duong The Xe, the Repair Shop of Bui Ngoc Cu, and vehicle operator Hoang Ngoc Kha, etc. On the other hand, we paid proper attention to increasing production and living conditions, self-defense and civilian operation relationships, and as a result, everyone was encouraged and united, and every year, the unit surpassed its plan."

Engineer Ngo Doc, director of Enterprise No 675, which won the satisfactory overall performance title several years in a row, a man with a pale complexion due to his prolonged exposure to harsh weather conditions in Lao territory, quietly told us the thing that his collective leadership team was most pleased with:

"The prime task we embarked upon when the construction of this highway began was mental preparation and taking measures to improve the men's living conditions and health. By late 1980, the unit was relocated in Na Phieng which had the worst climate ever. Many men fell sick and at times, over half the unit had malaria and some men died of a cerebral type subtertian malaria. The first thing for us to do was trying to augment the number of health workers, upgrade dispensaries, increase the number of treatment sites in the groups' areas, improve environmental conditions, and strictly enforce malaria preventive measures. As a result, the ratio of sickcalls came down to under 10 percent. The unit established good relations with the local population, was given breeders and small plants suitable to the local climate. That triggered a vigorous development of production, adding fresh vegetables, meat and fish in the men's daily meals. Due to relatively stabilized living conditions, and to a better supply of material supplies, and together with the implementation of a product contracting system, the unit continuously launched short-duration emulation drives with specific purposes such as, "Plant the Flag On the 1,200 Meter Hill", "Pass the Phu Lom Hill," etc. Labor output frequently reached 130 percent, and at times, 200 percent. Surfacing Group No 5 of Nguyen Dao, the equipment operator group of Pham Van Thi, among others, were the models. The enterprise also made economic linkages with other units to exchange material supplies, and exploited local supply resources to the maximum, and as a consequence, the project cost was lowered, living conditions were consistently improved, and the men were literally bound to the unit, increasing output, and completing ahead of schedule the construction of the highway entrusted to them by the federation."

Replacing the old narrow dirt track, the Phu Lau-Muong Hiem Highway is now a new asphalted road, with a large pavement that can be traveled by motor vehicles in all four seasons. Comrade Bun Su, deputy chairman of Vieng Thoong District which the new road goes through, told us:

"The new highway helps us get better leadership and support from the province and neighboring districts. It facilitates our leadership and our tailoring the physical resources in the district. And it is a big asset to us in the provision of security and order, and in the protection of the peaceful life of our people."

Comrade Van Xi, chief of the Lao technical inspection and reception delegation, gave an outstanding evaluation of the quality of the project. He saw the new highway as an expression of love and friendship of two brotherly peoples.

9458/9423
CSO: 4209/181

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

CAMBODIAN PARTY LECTURERS--Hanoi, 9 Jan (VNA)--Three lecturers of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea visited Vietnam from 31 December 1985 to 9 January 1986 on the occasion of Kampuchea's 7th National Day (7 January). During their stay, the Kampuchean guests gave lectures on the Kampuchean people's substantial achievements in national revival and development over the past 7 years. They visited a number of industrial and agricultural establishments, historical and scenic places in Hanoi and Thanh Hoa Province. They were cordially received by Dao Duy Tung, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and head of its Commission for Propaganda and Training. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0815 GMT 10 Jan 86] /9604

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH BULGARIA--The economic and trade cooperation between Vietnam and Bulgaria over the past 3 decades has constantly been consolidated and expanded, thus contributing to the strengthening of friendship, militant solidarity, and cooperation between the two countries. With Bulgaria's assistance, more than 100 projects with whole sets of equipment have appeared in Vietnam. The economic and trade cooperation between the two countries have yielded initial good results, especially in rubber and coffee production. The balance of trade between the two countries have increased from 24 million rubles in the 1976-80 5-year plan to 40 million rubles in the 1981-85 period. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 10 Jan 86] /9604

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM INDIA--Hanoi, 10 Jan (VNA)--The Communist Party of Vietnam delegation headed by Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the party Central Committee and minister of agriculture returned here Tuesday after attending the celebration of the National Congress Party of India's centenary. It was welcomed home by Vu Quang, member of the party Central Committee and head of its international department, and Nguyen Dang, vice minister of agriculture. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0800 GMT 11 Jan 86] /9604

DECORATION CONFERRED ON BULGARIA'S STOYANOV--Hanoi, 12 Jan (VNA)--Accredited by the Vietnamese Council of State, Vietnamese Ambassador to Bulgaria Hoang Trong Nhu has presented in Sofia the Ho Chi Minh Order, a high Vietnamese distinction, to Senior Lieutenant General D. Stoyanov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and minister of the interior. Speaking on the occasion, Minister D. Stoyanov said that he considered the conferment a great illustration of the militant solidarity and the comprehensive cooperation between the two parties and peoples in general and between the Bulgarian and Vietnamese ministries of the interior in particular. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0706 GMT 12 Jan 86] /9604

ALBANIAN ENVOY'S RECEPTION--Hanoi, 11 Jan (VNA)--Albanian Ambassador to Vietnam Syrja Laze gave a reception here this evening on the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania (11 Jan). Present on the occasion were Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the National Assembly and vice president of the State Council; Hoang Tung, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party CC and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Le Khac, member of the party CC and foreign trade minister; Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh, minister of education; Minister Vo Dong Giang; Do Van Tai, deputy head of the party Central Committee's international department, and representatives of various central and local offices and mass organizations. Albanian Ambassador Syrja Laze, Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho and others raised toasts to the great achievements recorded by the Albanian people in their socialist construction over the past 40 years, to the greater successes of the Vietnamese and Albanian peoples in their noble causes, and to the constant consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0832 GMT 12 Jan 86] /9604

OUTGOING FRENCH AMBASSADOR--Hanoi, 11 Jan (VNA)--French Ambassador to Vietnam Ivan Bastouyl took leave of National Assembly Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho here today before leaving for home for a new assignment. Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho cordially talked with the French diplomat. Present on the occasion was Le Trang, deputy director of the Office of the National Assembly and State Council. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0810 GMT 12 Jan 86] /9604

SRV, CSSR TRADE UNION OFFICIALS MEET--Hanoi, 12 Jan (VNA)--The secretary of the Central Council of the Czechoslovak Trade Unions, F. Brabenek, has received in Prague Vu Dinh, secretary of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions, now on a visit to Czechoslovakia. At the reception, the host and guest highly valued the trade union activities of Vietnamese workers in Czechoslovakia and noted with satisfaction that these activities had contributed to further strengthening the friendship between the working people of the two countries and brought about achievements in labour. They also discussed measures to improve the trade union work of the Vietnamese workers. On behalf of the Vietnamese trade unions, Vu Dinh thanked the Central Council of Czechoslovak Trade Union for its assistance to the Vietnamese working in Czechoslovakia. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0747 GMT 13 Jan 86] /9604

LE DUAN RECEIVES GDR'S SCHEURER--In Ho Chi Minh City today Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, received participants in the 37th meeting of the CEMA Planning Committee, among them head of the GDR delegation Gerhard Schuerer. [Excerpt] [East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1500 GMT 11 Jan 86] /9604

CEMA PLANNING COMMITTEE SESSION--Hanoi, 12 Jan (ADN)--The 37th session of the CEMA Planning Committee ended today (Sunday) after 5 days of consultations in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. As a statement says, the chairman of the central planning organs of the CEMA countries took part in the session, together with the chairman of the Lao Planning Commission as a guest. The GDR delegation was led by Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, vice premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission. [Excerpt] [East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1501 GMT 12 Jan 86] /9604

LE DUAN GREETINGS TO CPI-M--Hanoi, 8 Jan (VNA)--The general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, Le Duan, has sent a message of congratulations to 3.M.S. Namboodiripad [name as printed] on his reelection as central [as printed] secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist). In his message, Le Duan wished the CPI-M leader the best of health and successes in his noble mission, and the solidarity, friendship and fraternal cooperation between the two parties and people's further consolidation and development. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1636 GMT 8 Jan 86] /8309

AMBASSADOR TO YEMEN--Hanoi, 9 Jan (VNA)--"The word Vietnam is sacred to the Yemeni people," said 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the Yemeni People's Democratic Republic at his reception given on 6 January to the Vietnamese ambassador to the PDRY, Le Mai. The Yemeni president said that his people are proud of having Vietnam as their friend and he wished the relations between the two countries constant consolidation and development. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT 9 Jan 86] /8309

ANGOLAN-SRV RELATIONS--Hanoi, 9 Jan (VNA)--"Learning valuable lessons from the Vietnamese resolution, the Angolan people have become aware of the fact that a nation, however small, is fully capable of winning final victory in their revolutionary struggle if it firmly advances along the correct path charted by a genuine Marxist-Leninist party," said Angolan President J.E. dos Santos while receiving new Vietnamese Ambassador Angola [as received] Nguyen Huy Loi in Luanda early this month. The Angolan president noted that at present the Angolan revolution has to overcome many difficulties caused by the U.S. imperialists and the Pretoria regime. However, he said, with the warm assistance of the Soviet Union, Cuba and other socialist countries, the Angolan people would certainly thwart all sinister plots and moves of imperialism and other reactionary forces, resolutely safeguarding their national independence and sovereignty, and taking their revolutionary cause constantly forward. President J.E. dos Santos expressed his joy at the unceasing development of the friendship and cooperation between Angola and Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0821 GMT 10 Jan 86] /8309

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES--Hanoi, 7 Jan (MTI)--Heading a Hungarian delegation, Lajos Faluvegi, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and president of the National Planning Office, arrived in Hanoi Tuesday to attend the 37th session of the CEMA Planning Cooperation Committee. [Text] [Budapest MTI in English 1735 GMT 7 Jan 86] /8309

CSO: 4200/526

PHAM VAN DONG COMMENDS RAILWAY CADRES, WORKERS

OW081049 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] On the occasion of the 30th founding anniversary of the Vietnam Railway Service, Chairman Pham Van Dong of the Council of Ministers, addressed the following letter to the railway cadres and workers.

Dear cadres and workers of the Vietnam Railway Service:

On the occasion of the 30th founding anniversary of the Vietnam Railway Service, on behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, I commend you cadres and workers of the railway service for your efforts and contributions and for striving, together with the armed forces and people of the entire country, to score great achievements in economic construction and national defense over the past 30 years.

Dear comrades, to fulfill your duties in the new stage of the revolution, you must unite, uphold the sense of responsibility, train yourselves to acquire revolutionary qualities and ethics, and improve your political, cultural, scientific, and technological knowledge and skills, with a determination to overcome all weaknesses and advance the railway service. In the immediate future, it is necessary to reorganize and to rationally redistribute labor. Everyone must work with productivity, quality, and efficiency. Waste of material supplies and fuel, as well as managerial expenditures, must be reduced. It is necessary to overfulfill the plan norms, apply the system of economic accounting and business transactions with good results, better meet the requirements of economic construction and development, consolidate national defense and security, properly serve the people's travel, and stay worthy of beloved and esteemed Uncle Ho's teaching that railway cadres and workers must unite, observe discipline, and work well.

I hope that you will outstandingly fulfill the plan for 1986, the first year of the 1986-1990 5-year plan.

My cordial and determined-to-win salutions. [as printed]

[Signed] Pham Van Dong.

/8309
CSO: 4209/229

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

DECREE PROTECTS RELICS, SITES--Hanoi, 8 Jan (VNA)--The Council of Ministers has recently issued a decree to enact the law on the protection and utilisation of historical and cultural relics and places of interest. The decree says that the historical and cultural relics and sites of scenic beauty are invaluable national property. They include architectural works or places, documents and works of historical, scientific, art and other cultural value related to historical events and the process of cultural and social development in Vietnam. These also are geographical areas of scenic beauty of famous construction projects. The decree stipulates that all state offices, social organizations, army units and every Vietnamese citizen have the responsibility to protect the above-said relics. The decree also provides for the right to private ownership of historical and cultural relics and the procedures of registration. It imposes ban on all acts of sabotage and illegal possession of or trading in these relics. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT 8 Jan 86] /8309

TRUONG CHINH VISITS ART EXHIBITION--Hanoi, 8 Jan (VNA)--Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the Council of State, yesterday visited the 1985 national fine arts exhibition in Hanoi. The president stood long moments before the paintings and sculptures about President Ho Chi Minh's activities at various revolutionary [as received] in Vietnam. He took great interest in a lacquer painting by Tran Van Can portraying President Ho Chi Minh in an [word indistinct] costume sitting leisurely at the foot of the "Karl Marx" mount and by the bank of the "Lenin" stream, near the Coc Bo cave in Cao Bang Province where he spent the first days after returning from abroad to lead the revolution. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0926 GMT 8 Jan 86] /8309

CSO: 4200/526

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

HANOI REPORTS DISTRICT LABOR REDISTRIBUTION

BK081311 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] According to the Ministry of Labor, by the end of 1985, 80 percent of the districts and cities throughout the country--359 districts and 39 cities--had formulated plans for the use and redistribution of labor at the district level. The plans of more than 40 percent of these districts and cities have been formally approved by the people's committees of the provinces concerned. In terms of geographical division, we can say that 61 percent of the districts of the Bac Bo mountain provinces, 96 percent of those of the midland provinces, 83 percent of those of the Bac Bo delta provinces, 95 percent of those of the former Zone 4 provinces; 93 percent of those of the central coastal provinces, 43 percent of those of the Tay Nguyen [Central Highlands], 79 percent of those of Nam Bo provinces, and 87 percent of those of the Mekong River delta have devised plans for labor redistribution at the district level.

Meanwhile, Thai Binh, Minh Hai, Nghe Tinh, and Cuu Long provinces and Hanoi and Haiphong municipalities are urgently conducting supplementary surveys to perfect their labor redistribution plans. Replying on basic documents on district labor redistribution plans, Minh Hai, Cuu Long, and Dong Nai provinces have done a fairly good job of selecting and redistributing workers.

Through the planning of labor redistribution at the district level, many localities have gained a better knowledge of both the quality and quantity of their labor sources and have reached an estimate of the increases in the number of workers in the 1986-1990 period.

/8309
CSO: 4209/229

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN VIEWS CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION PROGRESS

BK091235 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Jan 86

[NHAN DAN 8 January editorial: "Accelerate the Production of Consumer Goods"]

[Text] The resolution of the 5th party Central Committee's 9th plenum and the resolution of the 7th National Assembly's 10th session clearly pointed out that it is necessary to rapidly increase industrial consumer goods to meet the demands of the people's lives and the demands for exchanging goods with peasants. In the first stage of the transitional period in our country, agricultural production is an extremely important front. Nevertheless, every step taken by agriculture in influenced by heavy industry and closely linked with the consumer goods industry, including the food industry and the various branches of light industry. The production of consumer goods plays an important role in the economic structure. Employing a large force of social labor, it enhances, through processing, the value of agricultural, forestry, and marine products, and produces a great quantity of products to serve the people and provide the state with an abundant source of goods for exchange with the peasants to stimulate agricultural production. It also produces many goods for export, thus creating a large source of revenue for the budget, reducing payment deficit, and contributing to the stabilization of finances, money, market, and prices. Without stepping up the production of consumer goods, it would be hard to stabilize the people's lives, impossible to maintain normal relations between the state and the peasants, and hard to build the basis for developing heavy industry.

Accelerating the production of consumer goods is a pressing and long-term task. Experience gained by many localities and light industry establishments shows that we are totally capable of meeting the demand for common consumer goods, first of all fabrics, paper, pottery and glass wares, plastic products, and items made of wood and bamboo; therefore, we must not allow the current shortage to continue. We must introduce onto the front of consumer goods production all economic forces--from state-run to collectivized and private--while fully making use of the production capacity of the national defense and heavy industries.

Small industry and handicrafts must be developed this year not only to process agricultural, forestry, and marine products and fully utilize discarded supplies and domestically available raw materials to produce consumer goods for meeting demands both at home and abroad, but also to absorb the unemployed workforce from the cities and the surplus labor from the state machinery. The sector also holds promising prospects regarding on-the-spot export through the possibility of carrying out production under labor contracts with foreign countries.

All localities and establishments can step up the production of consumer goods through economic integration and cooperation to fully utilize all the sources of capabilities. It is necessary to create and fully provide raw material and supplies as well as energy for those establishments producing consumer goods--from large to medium and small factories and from state-run production establishments to small industry and handicrafts units. By broadly applying technological innovations to the production of consumer goods, we will be able to contribute to saving on raw material, supplies, and energy; reuse discarded materials; create new sources of raw materials and supplies; and improve the quality and appeal of products to increase their value.

Along with the quantitative increase, utmost attention must be given to improving the quality of consumer goods. Whatever the type of product, we must strive to improve its quality as our country's capabilities and conditions permit to make it worth the price paid by the consumers.

Our people should use domestic goods to support our producers, considering this a manifestation of their love for the country and socialism, and do their best to limit the use of imported goods, especially luxury consumer goods.

The consumer goods production output projected for 1986 is low compared with the capacity of the production establishments currently operating under the new mechanism of management. If all consumer goods production establishments develop the working people's spirit of collective mastery, enforce the new mechanism of management, reorganize production, rationally exploit labor, equipment, machinery, and tools, save on raw material, supplies, and energy, and bring their dynamism and creativity into play, we will be fully capable of overfulfilling the 1986 plan for the production of consumer goods, thus making them readily available in great quantities and contributing to stabilizing the socioeconomic situation.

/8309
CSO: 4209/229

BANK OPERATIONS REQUIRE RENOVATION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Dec 85 p 2

['Economic Forum' column by Le Khac Thanh, Economic Management Research Institute: "Reorganizing Activity Formula of Banks--An Urgent Requirement"]

[Text] The problem of stabilizing prices and maintaining the actual income level through the new wages of workers and civil servants is one of foremost importance to us. Prices and the purchasing power of the dong have a mutual relationship and effect. The value of the new dong must be maintained from the start. To achieve this, the root is still production and creation of a volume of commodities corresponding to the volume of currency in circulation. However, perfection of the operating mechanism of the circulation and distribution segment has an important significance, including the present heated and critical issue of rearranging the circulation situation of currency itself.

During the recent past, the currency circulation situation has been in serious trouble. Unoccupied money was greatly accumulated among the people but worthy of attention is that during the period centering around the currency exchange date, it was concentrated primarily in enterprises and agencies (accounting for 50 percent of the money exchanged). This uncirculated money situation causes alarm in many aspects. It cannot be observed simply as an occurrence of financial law violation but more fundamentally, it signals a crisis in the operating formula of banks faced with the new requirements. With a mechanism burdened with bureaucratism and subsidization, the banks find it difficult to answer the requirements of increasingly active and versatile production and business operations. Series of units are shifting strongly to the new operating procedures, not only demanding a supply of sufficient credit but also extreme convenience, speed and timeliness to ensure the effectiveness of business activities. It was no surprise when an especially tense situation in cash occurred precisely following the appearance of Resolution Six, and especially after Resolution Eight came into being. It was also no surprise that nearly all the units that recently held large quantities of cash were the same units that are now operating in an enthusiastic and effective manner. The situation above reveals a contradiction between the requirement that production must be active and dynamic with a formula of the financial and credit supply still maintaining a shackling mechanism and with many irrational restraints and controls. This contradiction demands a truly basic solution by reorganizing the bank operating formula.

To speak of eliminating bureaucratism and subsidization in banking work and shifting entirely to socialist accounting and business practices, specifically the elimination of what, by what method, and how the bank's business concept is, are problems requiring an exchange of opinions.

1. It is impossible in speaking of business not to mention the establishment of a bilateral and proportionate relationship in trade (in interests, rights, responsibilities, etc.) between the bank as the supplier (not the distributor!) of finance and credit and its patrons who must have a proportionate relationship in the right to choose and accept. Each patron dealing with a bank must have the right to select the most favorable transaction location for his business requirements and subsequently the right to change that location when necessary. This is the most unique and fundamental method for eliminating every occurrence of authoritarianism and negativism which directly or indirectly leads to monetary exchange troubles.

2. Posing the problem of choice means there must be something to choose. On the other hand, when credit requirements are increasing every day to answer the steadily more complex and expanding production requirements, it is also necessary to promptly diversify the banking system with not just the sole venerable national banking system as at the present time but a series of specialized sector banks (communications and transportation, industry, agriculture, water conservancy, capital construction, small industry and handicrafts, etc.). The banking sector itself is a field in which we have conditions for achieving the motto of "The State and the People Working Together" with many of the greatest economic effects. On the other hand, we are presently proposing the question of mobilizing the unoccupied capital of the people and attracting the capital of the overseas Vietnamese. The various forms of joint business banking, and joint enterprise between the collective, the state and the individual are all extremely relavent forms for achieving the requirements above (for example, the form of joint business between the collective area and the state--in the form of a small industry and handicrafts banking system with branches throughout the nation), and could make a great contribution toward resolving the present difficulties in the supply of finance and credit to this area aimed at creating the conditions necessary to promote its modernization. Besides the form of joint business with the state, it is even possible to permit the form with the pure credit organization of the collective. Here, there is only the matter of assuring the principle that every banking form must have the leadership and administrative control of the national banking system. The national banking system itself must be reorganized to follow a course of total separation--in the organizational and operational aspects to form two systems: a system of financial distribution (planned), and a system of credit supply like a service. This system will move completely into the operating formula along a course of commercializing and playing a primary role in the credit banking system comprising state-operation, the collective, and joint business and joint enterprise between the state and the collective or the individual.

3. In conjunction with reformation of the organizational structure mentioned above, it is necessary to diversify banks and to make credit activities a service through a network of credit banks in every location, from that making it possible to apply the payment by check formula as a widespread payment formula applicable to all the people and with value in every exchange circumstance, including daily buying, selling and service in the most advantageous form. Payment by check is an extremely reasonable formula long in common use in every country in the world. We have also applied it for a long time but with extremely subsidized provisions and within the organizational structure of the

bank as at the present time, and this payment formula has become a restraining method and shackling and troublesome regulation which not many prefer. If the payment by check formula is not applied, people like to carry ready cash for easy use and despite the danger of loss, that is an ancient formula. The contradiction above is one of the reasons leading to the monetary crisis and the consequences which we have clearly seen. The activities of banks in our country at the present time still have many troublesome procedures. In locations with little exchange, there are crowds of waiting people and the many long-winded and burdensome procedures produce all kinds of negative aspects, especially in the cash withdrawal step. With the concentrated bureaucratic and subsidized nature of banks, we often fail to respect or maintain a number of elementary principles in bank activities; for example, the principle of savings sacrocanctity (Lenin himself presented it as a fundamental point of discussion--the fourth point--in a summary compilation of banking policies, immediately after the Soviet government was established).

The word credit in any language encompasses an idea of "trust" and "confidence." The supreme principle of credit is payment punctuality. With this principle, the borrower must make prompt repayment in accordance with the contract. Deferments require the agreement of the interested party. In recent practice, such an essential and elementary item has not been complied with. The bank only demands repayment, collects interest and penalizes financial violators but usually retains the right not to fulfill its credit obligations and responsibilities to the bank customer. The consignment of various types of accounts, instead of being a voluntary exchange of business activity, has been turned into a compulsory regulation of a legal nature with strict assignment-on behalf of the monetary supervision and control functions of the bank--to tacitly turn every "account chief" into an "account servant." Due to operations following the subsidization mechanism, any account withdrawn from a bank is considered a "distribution" (and must be "requested"!) even if it is money earned by the unit and consigned (in which must be included the salaries of workers and public servants or the wages of laborers in the collective production area). The situation of the banks "owing" the small industry and handicraft area in Ho Chi Minh City more than 800 million dong in old currency prior to the date of currency exchange but never bearing a bit of material responsibility indicates in a fairly representative manner the inequitable and unreasonable nature of the relationship between the banks and their customers. Although the matter above may be defended because of some "absolute necessity" or another, it is still unnecessary and must not be permitted in the activities of the banks because it violates the principle presented by Lenin. We often speak of the "retaliation" of objective law. The recent serious uncirculated money situation is a reaction against the inevitable--consciously or not--of patron units (it must also be stated that there was "no alternative!"

As long as the situation above has still not been overcome, the use of checks will not be preferred or considered a necessity.

4. The primary strong point in tolerating the inconsistencies of the bureaucratic and subsidized mechanism of the banks for a long time has been a superficial attitude toward their monetary inspection and control functions. The principle nature of these functions must be affirmed but one thing that must be

discussed is what their viewpoint is toward the money control function, whether that is their primary function, and how it should be amalgamated with the need for expanding the initiative of the basic unit.

We think that every formula and method for achieving the monetary inspection and control functions of the banks will only be elucidated when they truly have economic effectiveness and are not an obstacle to or adversely affect the activities of production. Observing the past, the monetary control functions of the banks are usually turned into difficult regulations that shackle production with many procedures aimed at reexamining and scrutinizing the operating rules of the production side in a direct and excessively trifling manner. Such a method of inspection and control only has an effect of creating trouble and causing a useless waste of time while the bank employee himself has little understanding in the economic and technical aspects (and no matter how great his human affairs progress, he cannot have a grasp of every economic and technical sector). Such control as above actually bears a formalized and impractical nature. In order to cope with it, production units are often forced to haphazardly return to facing the insistent demands of the uninformed employee or must choose the negative "rake off" route to make everyone happy! Of course, each time it makes a credit loan, the bank must have the right and must demand full explanation and keep track of use but must not interfere greatly in the use of capital resources. The inspection and control functions of finance and banking must be achieved in a rational manner with depth and with a possible direct effect but more effective is the use of economic levers (such as with capital taxes for example. This is an extremely appropriate lever in every period when profit norms are emphasized and requirements in credit capital resources are encouraged). The monetary control formula of banking can only be properly achieved by commericializing the banks and closely linking the business interests of the banks with those of their customer units. Because of their own interests, the banks must give active and responsible concern to the activity results of enterprises and business and production units, and will create every favorable condition for production units to achieve those results. With a banking institution shifting entirely to a business formula and simultaneously honoring the right of the customer to choose a bank to deal with, the business operations of the banks will steadily improve to attract customers. This is an effective premise for achieving the formula of payment by check in a universal manner, eliminating every tense monetary situation as the one that recently occurred, and with an active effect on the mobilization of capital among the people in conjunction with a series of other important targets in the economic and social aspects. Within this field of blood-vessel activity of the economy, the psychological factors--"trust" and "confidence"--of the customer and of the masses have a part in determiningg the success of every one of our policies and calculations.

7300
CSO: 4209/188

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

EDITORIAL ADVOCATES CONTINUED DISTRICT BUILDING

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Nov 85 pp 1,4

[Text] Our task with strategic significance is to "strive to build the district and take the district as the new scope for dividing labor and organizing production and life." The district is playing an increasingly important role in the new management structure. District building must be tied to implementing the resolution of the Central Committee's 8th Plenum (5th session), aimed at promoting production development in keeping with rational structure, while productivity, quality, and effectiveness increase daily; at stabilizing daily life for the people, controlling production, controlling distribution and circulation, and controlling the market and prices; and at bringing socialist reform to completion, expanding the state-operated and collective economy, and developing family economies.

District building is in a new stage of development. Nationwide, more than three hundred districts have completed comprehensive planning. High quality planning has usually made full use of readily available potential in land, labor, occupations, and the material and technical base; have tailored the distribution of plants and livestock to the natural conditions and customs of each locality; have stressed the importance of crop specialization, as well as integrated business; have designed an agro-industrial structure with agriculture, forestry, and fishing tied to industry, especially the processing industry; have tied production to distribution and circulation; and have developed projects, methods, and great balance to meet objectives with appropriate steps.

To decentralize and assign installations to the district are great tasks. A number of places, in conjunction with decentralizing and making assignments so that the district could take the initiative in production and business, removed obstacles from the management structure, tying responsibility to mission and rights and resolutely removing unnecessary intermediate organizations that cause production bottlenecks. Wherever this was done, installations assigned directly to the district for management improved production and business.

Socialist reform in agriculture, forestry, and fishing has been expanded in keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the Central Committee's 8th

Plenum on the district, instructions of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Party, and resolutions of the Standing Committee of the Council of Ministers. A number of districts have resolved well relationships between cooperatives and production collectives and between production, processing, circulation, and consumption. The effort to tie the services and technical networks to cooperatives and agricultural production collectives through economic contracts has been carried out well in such localities as Hai Phong, Long An, Hanoi, Ha Nam Ninh, and Nghia Binh. In many places, the commercial purchasing and sales networks have been tied to production collectives and cooperatives to control goods and money. In a number of localities that are experimenting with agricultural, industrial, commercial, and credit cooperatives, such as Ha Son Binh, Ho Chi Minh City, and Nghia Binh, a new strength has been generated, making cooperatives and production collectives tie production with processing and distribution, controlling goods and controlling money at the source.

District building must continue to accelerate. Experiences of district sites have proven that district building and strengthening the district level will create new potential for using labor, land, and the available material and technical base to develop production at a fast pace, tie agriculture, forestry, and fishing together, tie agriculture, forestry, and fishing to industry, join state-operated and collective business with family business, tie construction to reform, and join economic development and socio-cultural development, thereby activating the integrated strength of the collective ownership system. That 400 districts are achieving results in initiatives and inventive efforts to run their own economies has great significance for the socioeconomic situation of our country and for the task of switching from small-scale production to socialist large-scale production. This further requires that sectors in provinces and the central echelon implement correct policies toward the district and train cadres for the district. The district, in conjunction with the basic level, is the place where the 8th Resolution of the Central Committee of the Party is effectively implemented, subsidies and bureaucracy are eliminated, and socialist economic accounting is introduced in all units.

9830
CSO: 4209/179

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

HANOI'S SURPLUS, SAVINGS—As of the end of October, Hanoi Municipality had a surplus of over 160 million dong (new currency) which was deposited in its saving account, including 77 million dong to its accrued account, an increase of 32 million dong over its initial plan at the start of the year. Among its 16 districts, 11 exceeded the 1985 saving targets, with the highest saving amounts of 9 million dong for Hoan Kiem District, 8.8 million for Ba Dinh District, 4 million for Dong Da District, nearly 2 million for Tu Liem, and 1.3 million for Gia Lam Districts. Fourteen saving tables and proxy saving tables achieved surpluses of over 20 million Dong, the highest being Table No 3 of Hoan Kiem District with 66 million, and Table No 26 of Ba Dinh District with 46 million. The Hai Ba Trung District was the unit achieving 100 percent of precincts having a saving account. The villages of Thinh Liet of Thanh Tri District and Phu Dong of Gia Lam District were the leaders of all outer-city villages with surpluses of approximately 1 million dong, followed by the villages of Kim No (Dong Anh), Tay Tuu (Tu Liem), and Yen So (Thanh Tri), with surpluses of half a million to nearly 1 million dong. Since the beginning of the year, Hanoi steadily increased its surplus-saving, and was the locality with an absolute surplus balance and with a per capita saving the highest in the whole country. For the last 2 months of the year, Hanoi will strive to achieve an additional surplus of 40 million dong to reach a 200-million dong surplus for 1985. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Nov 85 p 1] 9458

CSO: 4209/181

AGRICULTURE

HAIPHONG URGES COOPERATIVES, FARMERS TO SELL GOODS IN TOWN

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 Nov 85 p 2

[Text] Haiphong residents' demand for vegetables in their meals is supplied primarily from the agricultural zone. It is noteworthy that for a long time fresh vegetables, fruit, and domestic fowl circulated primarily on the free market. During "subsidy" years, the city had to disperse thousands of tons of grain annually--3,000 tons during peak years--to supply a number of cooperatives specializing in the cultivation of vegetables. Vegetable and fruit produce were not sold by cooperatives directly to the consumer, but were distributed through the fruits and vegetables corporation of the city. The produce was bruised and crushed on the road. Only if the person hauling produce to town belonged to a collective installation would the fruits and vegetables corporation accept him, and only then would he get easy passage to and fro. Other persons bringing fruit, vegetables, and other farm produce into town would be subjected to such difficulties and harrassments as inspections, fines, arrest and seizure, and taxation, which often led to the situation of vegetable shortages and high prices in the city while they were cheap in areas in growing 5-15 km away, but could not be distributed. Produce shortages were all the more severe during off-season periods.

Implementing Central Committee Resolution 8, the municipal party committee and people's committee developed a number of measures to help, encourage, and enable agricultural cooperatives, marketing cooperatives, and peasant families running family sideline businesses to bring such produce as fruits, vegetables, chickens, ducks, and eggs into the city, towns, and villages to retail it directly to the consumer, without being required to go through any intermediate corporation. They also closed five inspection posts at entrances to the city that had been causing trouble for persons bringing produce in to sell. Fares were reduced for farmers using the ferry to cross into the city. Dozens of fruit and vegetable stands of the fruits and vegetables corporation in some large markets were turned over to agricultural cooperatives to operate. Some agricultural cooperatives brought their produce in to sell in such large markets as Sat and An Duong, and many subwards in the city or towns and villages prepared locations for cooperatives to sell vegetables in them conveniently. The city gave tax exemptions to farmers and village marketing cooperatives who brought produce in for sale.

Although only a few actions have been taken, the program has had significant results: an increase in the volume of fresh produce on the market and a decrease in spoilage and distribution costs of produce, especially fresh produce, which have made important contributions to stabilizing prices in the city markets. In late October, the price of fruits and vegetables alone dropped 3-5 times what they had in mid-September. The price of chickens, ducks, eggs, fish, and pork have remained relatively stable since August, contributing greatly to stability of life for cadres, workers, and working people. On the other hand, they encouraged farmers to raise nearly 2,000 more hectares of winter vegetables and fruits, increasing the growing area by hundreds of hectares over previous seasons.

9830
CSO: 4209/179

FERTILIZER PRODUCTION, FOREST MANAGEMENT CHANGES REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Nov 85 p 1

[Article: "Implementing Resolution No Eight: Productivity-Quality-Efficiency. General Department of Chemicals Reorganized the Production of Phosphate Fertilizer; Bac Thai: 140,000 Ha of Forests Transferred to Collectives and Families for Exploitation and Management"]

[Text] In order to better serve agriculture, the General Department of Chemicals has created the Roasted Phosphate Fertilizer Enterpirse No 1, including the three major facilities of Van Dien Phosphate Fertilizer Plant, Ninh Binh Phosphate Fertilizer Plant, and Thanh Hoa Serpentine Mine.

Although freshly organized, all three facilities were successful in their production activities, which were placed under a unified management. As of mid-October, the entire enterprise completed over 73 percent of the annual plan.

Expanding the experience learned, the General Department of Chemicals is actively studying and reorganizing other production units in charge of making fertilizers, rubber, detergents, batteries, carbide and other basic chemicals in order to achieve a close linkage between raw material extracting and processing units. Those production units that are too small but similar in organizational structure will be joined to increase investment capabilities, and those technical units not demanding too complex handling will be placed under local management.

In past decades, due to poor protection and inappropriate exploitation, forest area (primarily forests yielding valuable wood) in Bac Thai was seriously decreasing. Of the 435,000 ha of forestland (taking 67 percent of the natural land) of Bac Thai, there remained only 150,000 ha of forests of various types. Forests have been destroyed, causing not only the fallow land area and the number of denuded hills to increase rapidly, but also adversely affecting living conditions and agricultural production.

In recent years, Bac Thai took many measures to protect the forests and start afforestation. After careful survey and basic classification of forests and forestland resources, the province transferred 140,000 ha of forests and forestland to collectives and families of cooperative members for exploitation and management. Due to this measure, the forests were better protected, the slash-and-burn method of farming was reduced, and forest fires were visibly decreasing. Lumber exploitation was done with more focus on efficiency, and several cases of illegal exploitation and trade in lumber were thwarted.

In recent years, Bac Thai has planted approximately 3,000 ha of forests annually. To rapidly reclaim fallow land and denuded hills and bring back those wastelands to production, the province set aside land areas with less than a 20-degree gradient for agricultural production. From now until 1990, it plans to plant 10,000 ha of betel in fallow land and denuded hills with high gradient.

9458/9423
CSO: 4209/181

AGRICULTURE

FORESTRY SECTOR REVIEWS 1981-1985 TASKS

BK090755 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] The forestry sector recently held a conference to review tasks in 1985 and during the 1981-1985 period and discuss measures to effectively exploit the labor force, forest assets, and forest land in order to shift vigorously to the socialist accounting and business system. The conference also discussed tasks of the sector for 1986 and the 1986-1990 period with emphasis on productivity, quality, and effectiveness. The conference noted that the forestry sector has made great efforts in carrying out the special guidance and attention given to the forestry economy in general, and to the sector in particular by the Vietnamese party, state, and people.

Developments in the sector, though initial, are very important. These are tasks to combine the sector's activities with those of localities, affirm the right to collective mastery of the three levels in the same area, and combine land with labor, especially collective and family labor. This labor force has created a vigorous development in planting trees and afforestation and in managing and protecting forests, thereby establishing many good models for agro-forestry combination and creating new capabilities in quickly stopping the acts of setting fire to and destroying forests for cultivation. This is one of the major problems of primary concern to each locality, each grassroots level, and everyone else.

In production, cadres and workers of the sector have overcome numerous difficulties, developed the spirit of self-reliance and collective mastery, and fulfilled or overfulfilled many state plan norms. More than 462,000 hectares of concentrated forests have been planted—some 50,000 hectares of which were planted to serve industry--exceeding the state plan norm by 23 percent and exceeding the target set forth in the Fifth CPV Congress' resolution by 54 percent. Localities throughout the country have planted 1.64 billion trees on a scattered basis, exceeding the plan norm by 64 percent or an equivalent of 50 percent of the total number of trees planted during the 1960-1985 period.

The movement initiated by President Ho Chi Minh to plant trees has developed comprehensively. Vast reserve areas have been established in all regions and localities throughout the country, thus realistically serving production, construction, and local consumption, while protecting the environment. During the 1982-1985 period, the sector overfulfilled the set plan norm for timber supply, thus halting the failure to fulfill plan norms which persisted during past decades, gradually formulating a forestry exploitation plan and program, eliminating misuse of forests, and combining forest exploitation with restoration--giving priority to restoration.

The conference discussed various objective and subjective factors as well as shortcomings of the sector which must be promptly improved and overcome. These include improper arrangement between the forest potential and land with the labor force at district level; loose coordination between agriculture, forestry, and industrial processing sectors; the lack of a comprehensive plan for developing forestry in a rational production structure; the prevalent destruction of forest; and current low value of forest assets. The timber processing industry has scored progress, but production output has not fulfilled plan norms and there is wastage of timber.

Orientations for developing the forestry sector in 1986 and the 5-year 1986-90 period are tasks to effectively exploit 15 million hectares of forests and forest land, reorganize production in line with the agro-forestry structure at district level, especially 250 districts in the mountain areas; strengthen natural forest management, promptly plant trees on bare hills in order to increase the volume of wood products for society and for export; and increase the sector's income for forest restoration, thereby contributing to the nation's industrialization.

Along with closely coordinating with the three economic components that are carrying out forestry work in a rational structure--in which the state-run component plays the main role--the forestry sector must apply scientific and technological advances to production, combine its economic activities with those of localities, and increase export volumes. The sector must also study and firmly grasp the spirit of the party Central Committee eighth and ninth plenums' resolutions to shift vigorously to socialist accounting and business system.

All production, business, and investment plans of the sector must be based on productivity, quality, and effectiveness. The sector must improve its planning a step further on the basis of effective forest management and restoration. The sector is enthusiastically engaging in triumphantly fulfilling the 1986 state plan, striving to fulfill and overfulfill various plan norms of forestry work, export industry, and capital construction, while accelerating the forestry cooperation program with the two fraternal countries of Laos and Cambodia.

/8309
CSO: 4209/229

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

FARMING CONFERENCE HELD—Hanoi, 9 Jan (VNA)—A conference was held in Hanoi on 7-8 January by the Committee for the State Program on Scientific and Technical Advances in Rice Farming to review the implementation of the program for high-yield rice intensive farming in the 1984-85 winter-spring crop. Among those predent at the conference was Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers. In the 1984-85 winter-spring rice crop, the program was carried out on 8,000 ha in 43 districts of 13 provinces and cities involving 114 agricultural cooperatives. The rice varieties used under the program were mainly spring No 2, NN8, NN75-2, NN75-3 and CR 203. Initial results show that these strains gave higher yields than others, averaging from 5 to 7.8 tons per hectare. Meanwhile, an average yield of from 9 to 11 tons per hectare was achieved on 1,281 ha. Many families working under the contractual system got from 9-11 tons per hectare. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0811 GMT 10 Jan 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/537

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

QUANG NINH SEMINAR EXAMINES COAL PRODUCTION SUPPORT

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Dec 85 p 1

[Unattributed article: "Quang Ninh Province Strengthens Coal Production Supervision"]

[Text] Faced with a requirement of coal mining aimed at supplying the primary source of energy for the entire country, the Standing Committee of the Quang Ninh Provincal Party Committee held a symposium to strengthen supervision and outline guidance methods for the Hon Gai Federation of Coal Enterprises, the Uong Bi Coal Corporation, and the Cam Pha Construction and Installation Corporation to achieve synchronized coordination and establish a versatile and receptive operations mechanism suited to the actual situation with the purpose of developing production and successfully completing the 1985 coal output plan.

In primary materials, efforts must be made for swift receipt, thorough storage and timely transportation without shortages of fuel, petroleum products, shaft supports and spare parts for the mines and transportation and coal screening and selection enterprises. The material supply norms for which Quang Ninh is responsible will be fully met.

In crucial projects, efforts must be concentrated on a high level of construction in order to complete and immediately place them in use, to deploy workers with high skill levels to work on the railroad lines and piers, in operating vehicles and new machinery, etc.

In operations, the organizational apparatus must achieve orderly arrangement and unified and concentrated command while boldly giving the units autonomy, clearly defining the rate of progress of each step and job, and perfecting product contracts and the system of incentive awards for laborers with high productivity.

On caring for the lives of the workers, it was suggested that the state issue sufficient grain and food to meet fixed quantity requirements, honestly settle previous in-kind debts and issue goods in a uniform manner, avoiding intermittent breaks, especially during the 4th quarter. The province and coal sector must expand economic association and find supplementary sources. They must restore and strengthen collective messhalls, emphasize between-shift meals, repair and upgrade run-down housing, provide labor protection and cold-resistant clothing, shoes, hats and gloves, diagnose and heal disease, restore order at vehicle stops, and assist the miners to stabilize their lives, to feel peace of mind in their work, and to further increase their effective man-hours. Trade and service agencies must renew their business formulas, establish additional sales points, make distribution to the proper recipients, and deliver goods all the way into the hands of the consumer.

According to immediately effective regulations, once every 2 days, the party committee and director of the Hon Gai Federation of Coal Enterprises, the Uong Bi Coal Corporation and the Cam Pha Construction and Installation Corporation must report changes and production results to the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee and the Provincial People's Committee of Quang Ninh Province in order to together seek means of overcoming the obstacles. Sectors in the province, districts and cities and enterprises of the coal sector located within their areas must implement firm contracts oriented toward the support of coal mining, considering that the central mission.

7300
CSO: 4209/188

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

COC SAU COAL MINE INCREASES PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Dec 85 p 2

[Article by Nghiem Thanh: "Coc Sau Coal Mine (Quang Ninh) Increases Coal Output, Produces Additional 75,000 Tons of Washed Coal"]

[Text] Coc Sau Coal Mine is one of the three units of the coal sector chosen to experimentally implement the Resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the Party Central Committee in reorganizing production, eliminating bureaucratism and subsidization, and shifting entirely to socialist accounting and business practices.

Originating with the requirement for coordinating labor elements, data and objectives to establish a harmonious production line, the mine has reinspected and reexamined presently available labor and tools and reoriented the primary coal mining areas. After introducing the labor reorganization plan to teams, units, shops, bureaus and sections for democratic discussion, the mine director balanced the requirements and determined that only 3,000 people were needed in the primary jobs to produce 1.4 million tons of coal and remove 4,380,000 cubic meters of rock and dirt in accordance with the plan assigned for 1985. The surplus labor of 470 individuals, including the 70 cadres and men engaged in indirect labor, were transferred by the mine to coal by-product production and picking up lump coal. The management apparatus was adjusted, relieved of burdensome tasks and functions, and coordinated as one of the methods of increasing labor productivity.

With the purpose of improving mining techniques, Coc Sau eliminated overlapping and dispersed composite work sites, and applied methods of rearrangement by specialized sector aimed at specializing the blasting, excavation, scraping, in-mine screening, troughing, etc. processes. Thanks to that, unexpected obstacles have been rapidly resolved and the machine repair and operation standards of the workers have been upheld, creating conditions for the engineer ranks to delve deeply into scientific and technical research. Due to its abundant drilling capabilities, the mine sent a thrust drill team with 12 drills across to assist Cao Son Coal Mine. From the manufacture of small vibration sorting machines, the mine has now self-designed and constructed a large-scale sorting system, not only screening out size .5 coal dust for electric power plants but also 15 by 50 coke coal and number 2 lump coal. The mine's sorting system alone ensures an annual 1 million tons of coal, equivalent to Coal Selection Shop 1 of Cua Ong Coal Selection Enterprise. This coal sorting system meets state-level testing standards. Under conditions of motor vehicle shortages and difficulties in railroad cars and engines with many periods in which the coal must be accumulated and placed in piles which are toppled by rain and wind, the mine opened Da Bang Port--a project assembling already available iron, steel and construction materials. This port rapidly distributes coal and mechanizes the loading of coal into transportation means, shortens runs and each month achieves a coal shipment level of almost 10,000 tons. Collection of spilled coal has been redelineated, resisting occurrences of that coal being involved or mixed with raw coal. The boundaries of each mixed coal-shale, outside-vein coal and tailing area are firmly stipulated, and screens 1, 3 and 6 specialize in screening these types of coal.

Coc Sau was the first mine to survey, draft and complete establishment of two labor specification tables: defining the attrition norms for inexpensive and expendable materials and for fixed assets worth millions of dong. In the specification of utilization limits, merit in maintaining and extending the longevity of production materials is praised and losses and damage must be compensated for in accordance with specific regulations.

There is reliance on the principles of self-compensation, profitable business and gradual calculation to shift entirely to socialist accounting and business practices. Irrational expenditures are resolutely eliminated. Although the "beginning" price of past labor has not yet been fully defined by higher echelons, the mine has found ways to reduce fuel and tool expenses by returning warehouses scattered throughout the work site to three main warehouses, making issues in accordance with final levels and statements, and diverting an award percentage for those individuals with conservation achievements. At the same time, the mine has reduced its live labor and made efforts to reduce costs in order to achieve consumer acceptance. The unit price of 1 ton of coal has been calculated in a preliminary manner based on the wage funds of the entire mine in accordance with the volume of coal produced during the month followed by allocation and direct assignment to the various detachments. The division of wages is discussed and determined by the primary level unit but the payment of salaries passes through no intermediate step but goes directly to the hands of each miner, avoiding a situation of kickbacks and deceit.

To eliminate subsidization, allowances are figured in wages. Nevertheless, many points still must be supplemented, especially the policies concerning coal production with its special nature. The mine continues to provide industrial meals from self-acquired capital but even the noon meal is not overabundant and has an average nature; however, when the time comes, anyone present comes in to receive his share. Coc Sau has changed the formula of classifying categories A, B and C, and defining incentive living standards for individuals with excellent man-day levels and work, those not within the purview of classification, and those not issued meal chits. Each chit is worth 4 dong in new currency (in accordance with the stabilized price of grain and food).

Although the decentralization of management by the Federation of Hon Gai Coal Enterprises has just begun, with a concept of collective ownership and active improvement of both internal and external relations, Coc Sau Mine has overcome obstacles, maintained production, and steadily increased the coal shipment rate. By the end of October, the mine had produced 1,024,000 tons of coal, 78.7 percent of the planned level for the entire year with 80 percent achieved in the washed coal level alone, the highest ever. The reserve blast-loosened rock and dirt in prepared drill fields has reached nearly 1 million cubic meters. If sufficient numbers of vehicles are provided, daily excavation of 75,000 cubic meters can be achieved. With determination oriented toward an objective of assisting to supply coal to the key households of a number of national economic sectors, Coc Sau is actively exploiting every potential capability and has agreed to produce an additional 75,000 tons of coal, including 15,000 tons of lump coal, to support domestic requirements and to increase the volume of export goods.

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CSO: 4209/188

LIGHT INDUSTRY

NAM DINH TEXTILE MILL MAKES ECONOMIC REFORMS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 Nov 85 p 2

[Investigative Article by Thu Thanh: "Nam Dinh Silk Mill Implements Right to Initiative, Economic Accounting, Socialist Business"]

[Text] Terminating the "Issue, Payment" System

In line with product planning, the principal products of the Nam Dinh Silk Mill (of the Ministry of Light Industry) are various types of silks and satins. Aside from domestic electricity and coal, all raw materials and other supplies must be imported.

Up to and through 1980, the state maintained production stability issuing supplies and raw materials, with the installation only responsible for producing and turning over all production. From the end of 1980 on, however, especially in 1983, when embroidered satin export goods dropped in quality and could not be distributed, factory production fell into a slump, and the factory was placed in jeopardy of closure. The suggestion was made to discontinue products called for by the product plan and replace them with products for which the state had raw materials readily available and which were easy to distribute. To do so was actually to erase the name of a factory, and it caused much waste and expenses--because the technical structure had to be appropriately changed for the new raw materials--and the loss of a traditional product. But what was the right thing to do when the mill's production slumped while there was considerable market demand for all types of satin and silk textiles? Many localities within the country, especially in the northern provinces, and foreign trade agencies and agricultural, forestry, and marine product enterprises continued to require the use of much foreign currency to import textiles of the same types for domestic use or to make export goods. Nam Dinh Silk Mill made the pleasant discovery that domestic customers with foreign currency were the very market in which to distribute its goods and were also a source of raw materials, supplies, and foreign currency for the mill. There was only one way out of trouble, and that was to concentrate on switching from the issue-and-turn-over type of planning system to one that activates installations' right to take the initiative in production and business and their right to manage their own finances, tying planning to the market.

When it took this course, the mill came into contact with the economic accounting system of management and socialist business. The advent of Resolution 8 of the Central Committee encouraged the mill to confidentially forge ahead.

Tying Plan to Market

A most important matter, with decisive significance to the existence and development of production in the mill, was the creation of initial capital. Just as such textile mills in the south as Thanh Cong and Phuoc Long relied on their reputation for technical expertise and for the production of advanced goods to borrow foreign currency from the bank with which to buy materials and supplies, the Nam Dinh Silk Mill knew how to rely on traditional goods, first of all, to agree to produce and process goods through joint and combined economic ventures. In the beginning, the mill brought samples of merchandize to interest customers with foreign currency, had raw materials, and had a need for the merchandize. They were foreign trade agencies of provinces and municipalities, agricultural, national-level and local forestry, and marine products corporations, outlets for export of merchandize directly from the locality and at airports and seaports. After reaching agreement on prices, quality, and categories of merchandize, producers and consumers signed economic contracts of two forms: production and processing contracts or profit-sharing production cooperation contracts. Three of the first big customers of the mill were the General Handicrafts and Art Works Export Corporation and two foreign trade agencies of Hai Phong City and Ha Nam Ninh Province. This cooperation helped the mill both to have money to pay wages to workers and pay obligations to the state and to create a moderately substantial initial capital in foreign currency. With foreign currency, the mill opened an account at the foreign trade bank and imported supplies and raw materials to produce its own merchandize in order to implement another new business formula: purchasing outright and selling piecemeal--that is, taking products to exchange for chemical raw materials, or selling it to obtain foreign currency.

Through actions like these, the mill accumulated more and more capital and balanced production plans at each step by tying production plans to the market. Presently, in addition to amounts paid the state and the Federation of Textile Enterprises and in addition to nearly .5 million dong of in-depth investment, the mill has enough foreign currency to secure supplies and raw materials for this year's entire production plan and for all of 1986. Now the mill has dozens more customer units in Lang Son, Cao Bang, Vinh Phu, Binh Tri Thien, Thanh Hoa, Thai Binh, and Hanoi. The mill exports its goods to a number of countries of Southeast Asia, besides. The product line is also rapidly growing, with four types of satin, three types of twill-weave silk, and many items weaved from synthetic thread, cotton thread, and mixed fibers. The factory's product-line planning is not inflexible, but frequently supplemented during the planning year according to market demand or to changes forecast by customers. The Nam Dinh Silk Mill exercised its right to production and business initiative and effectively exploited the four means of balancing its own accounts.

Truly Effective Production and Business

Because the mill adhered to the principle of balancing its own accounts and taking responsibility for its own finances, its production plan was closely associated in a natural way to economic accounting and socialist business, and the production plan was not detached from the financial and technical plans, but they were formulated and implemented together. The mill's selling prices were accepted by society, and the mill took that price as the basis for plan formulation and economic accounting. Every cost was fully reflected in the product price. Before 1 October 1985, except for a portion of the electricity and coal supplied by the state and depreciation of fixed property, which retain features of subsidy, all remaining expenses (over 80 percent) were calculated, and prices completely covered costs, on both domestic and foreign markets. Following the new wage structure, there is little difference between today's wages and the cost of the mill's wages before.

Expenses, which were completely accounted for in product costs, were used to calculate production and business effectiveness. What is pleasant here is that profits are different on each product and at different times, with some even showing a loss at some time and a profit at others, yet the overall effectiveness for the entire planning year guarantees that production expenses are paid and that there is some accumulation. This explains why, with the mill now fully and correctly calculating production expenses in production costs, production and business remain stable, there is no embarrassed stoppage, and production is still profitable.

In economic accounting, the mill was truly subject to the law of value. The cost of imported raw materials changes constantly, and customers with foreign currency are free to import products of the same kind. Cadres and workers of the mill must therefore keep careful accounts, and economic effects must be calculated concurrently and in connection with technical planning, with the aim of raising productivity and quality and reducing product costs. Along with taking measures to manage labor, materials, and finances closely, the mill regularly paid attention to raising product quality, practicing thorough conservation, and making in-depth investments in order to increase efficient use of equipment and increase labor productivity. Though all the looms and spinning machines of the mill are old, they continue to operate normally. Worker skills are maintained at a high level by regularly conducting occupational skill tests, compensating master technicians and exceptionally skilled workers appropriately, strictly implementing the system of awards and punishments on the basis of product quantity and quality. All labor norms and materials utilization norms are constantly checked and corrected along the most advanced lines. Additionally, with foreign currency acquired, the mill is purchasing a number of modern looms and dye steamers in order to gradually automate a number of operations and significantly increase product quality and quantity. These actions help the mill reduce product costs, average per-worker productivity is more than 6,300 dong (new money) a month, and over 90 percent of the products are of class-A quality. This year, the mill is striving to reduce product costs 5 percent below those of last year. In both value and use value, the products of the mill are better than the same products imported, so that they have earned the confidence of customers, who are buying more and more.

Although prices of supplies and raw materials have changed greatly, selling prices of the mill's products have not increased; in fact, they have gradually fallen. During the middle of last October, the price of black silk and satin fabrics rose on the market to nearly double what it was the month before, while the cost of the mill's products did not change, or changed insignificantly.

Unity of Construction Plan on Basic Level with State Plan

Researching the process of production and business activity at this production installation, someone asked, "Is this an isolated activity? How is the unity of planning manifested?" The answer to these questions is that the production plan of the mill lies in the 1985 plan for the production of 380 million meters of textiles which the state conferred on the textile sector. The only thing is that the state cannot balance the installation's requirements for materials for for the installation, and therefore gives permission to the installation to balance its own. The entire production plan of Nam Dinh Silk Mill is formulated with portions devoted to in-kind, production value, financial, and technical aspects, and all comply with regulations of the state and are inspected and controlled by a higher-level agency, which is the Federation of Textile Mills of the Ministry of Light Industry. Let me give some examples. Although market prices rise, selling prices of the mill's products are determined by the Federation of Textile Enterprises and the Ministry of Light Industry. If it wants to develop its product line, make long-range investments, or expand production through its own capital assets, the mill must comply with regulations of the echelon above, which reflect the developmental strategy of the entire sector. Other than the portion retained by the enterprise in accordance with established incentive regulations, any profits received in Vietnamese or foreign currency are turned over to the higher echelon. The Federation of Textile Enterprises has regulated and will continue to regulate much of the mill's foreign funds for the rest of the year for the common good of the sector. As for distribution, the mill cannot arbitrarily distribute goods without regulation; all goods except merchandize from production processing or from joint and combined economic efforts sold for foreign currency are subject to distribution by the agency of the echelon above in support of the need for overall balance in the state-operated economy. Thus, in this mill, plans formulated by the installation and the plan conferred by the state are unified. The agency of the higher echelon uses its power through policies to activate and regulate economic activities and lead the installation to implement common objectives, and the installation's right to take the initiative is the right to conduct planning in an active way, according to the principle of taking responsibility for production and business results, making up its own production expenses, doing business at a profit, and increasing socialist accumulation and fully implement economic accounting and socialist business.

The experience of Nam Dinh Silk Mill has been experience in implementing the installation's right to take the initiative and activate the worker's right to collective ownership. That experience verified the correctness of Resolution 8 and the urgent need for sectors and installations to rapidly adopt the new economic system.

This experience is being popularized and mobilized within the light industry sector with the aim of implementing Resolution 8 of the Central Committee of the Party well.

9830
CSO: 4209/179

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

EDUCATION MINISTRY BANS SMOKING, DRINKING

BK090447 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] The Ministry of Education recently issued a directive banning the drinking of alcohol and cigarette smoking among cadres, teachers, staff workers, and students.

After citing the bad effects of smoking and drinking on the health, morals, and behavior of cadres, teachers, staff workers, and students and pointing out that this is a waste of money, the Ministry of Education instructs:

—That all cadres, teachers and staff workers working at various educational organs from the ministry down to various schools are prohibited from drinking alcoholic beverages while at work or in gala gatherings; from drinking alcoholic beverages during personal, family, and social gatherings; from having alcoholic drinks or holding gala drinking parties during personal, family, and social gatherings; and from smoking tobacco or cigarettes while in a meeting or in a teaching session;

—And that they must abstain from and do away with this bad habit.

All schools must provide close and strict control of their students and must prohibit them from drinking alcoholic beverages or smoking cigarettes under any circumstances. They must ask the local administration not to permit the selling of cigarettes near or at school entrances.

All schools must continue to explain this directive and must propagate and motivate parents and the local people not to drink alcoholic beverages and smoke cigarettes.

The Ministry of Education urges unit leaders, the headmasters of teachers' colleges and other schools, and the directors of various educational services to set good examples in implementing this directive and to join with related youth union organizations and educational trade unions at all levels in mapping out plans to implement strictly and effectively the slogan: "Every educational cadre and student must be a fighter against the bad habit of drinking alcoholic beverages and smoking cigarettes." These officials must do everything [word indistinct] their capacity to disseminate this directive such as by promoting emulation activities, organizing control, giving commendations, and taking disciplinary action.

/8309
CSO: 4209/229

POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE IN CULTURE, ARTS DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Nov 85 p 3

[Article by Luong Hong Quang, of the Ministry of Culture: "Culture and the Arts; Our Forum: Economic Issues in the Cultural and Artistic Domains"]

[Text] In recent years, much research has been done on the economic aspect of culture and the arts. The numbers of books and other materials as well as of scientific seminars treating the subject have been increasing. In our country, economic culture is a new subject that is being studied. Vietnam is member of a research commission on economic and cultural issues of socialist countries.

A Few Theoretical Issues

The issue of economic culture is posed when we discern the effects and interaction between economy and culture, and when we understand that culture is not the sole element stimulating economic development, and that the role of cultural works is not uniquely representing spiritual values, but also the humanist process that disseminates them. On the other hand, with regard to the internal aspect of the cultural sector, the excessive increase in money, material and manpower investments in cultural activities naturally requires further research, chiefly after the issuance of the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee. The time has come to instate more scientific and efficient measures in order to address the sector's management needs commensurate with cultural and artistic peculiarities. Research geared toward economic issues in culture is of great help in formulating a desired management pattern.

In theory as well as in practice, because of the overemphasis placed on individual social or economic aspects of cultural activities, errors and shortcomings happen in the management process. The tendency to focus excessively on the social, moral and esthetic success of cultural activities leads to careless investments regardless of the outcome, and is the chief cause for great losses and business failures of some cultural organizations, not to mention other psychological effects, and a leadership style that may be viewed as an indifferent exploitation of cultural activities for enjoyment and relaxation without due consideration for their economic value. On the other hand, the opposite tendency that treats cultural activities as part of economic production requiring the provision of profit and losses as in any other economic undertaking, and neglecting their political and social impacts, is virtually a product of the commercialization of all aspects of social life in Western societies. It ignores the values inherent to the true nature of culture and the arts. In reality, this tendency cannot survive in our society because it is completely alien to socialist cultural and social needs.

The social and economic aspects of culture and the arts are closely associated with each other and their effects on cultural life are simultaneous. Treating them separately is deviating from the cultural process. The so-called "social effect" cannot materialize if we cast away the computation of profit and losses, and the material and technical basis that create it. On the contrary, no "economic effect" can be achieved if we neglect the spiritual, moral and esthetic values that perpetuate culture and the arts.

For the cultural sector, the issue of profit and losses is different from others. Placing focus on cultural and social objectives, the sector simply addresses the need to effectively use the manpower, material and financial means alloted by the state without having to worry about bringing a profit. This is a leading principle governing the economic-cultural issue. The efficiency of cultural activities is a current issue. We must bear in mind that when paying attention to the economic factor and giving it a due position in cultural activities, we must not isolate it but must place it in the context of the social impacts of cultural activities. In addition, we should take into account a series of noneconomic factors such as space, time, current developments, thoughts and the psychology or physiology of cultural life or of the beneficiaries. We will determine the efficiency of cultural activities on the basis of qualitative and quantitative standards (state statistical standards, and statistical standards of our own sector). Another matter worth paying attention to is that we must improve the systems of statistical standards to make them consistent with the present situation and with cultural activities.

Financial support for cultural activities (subject-object-method-effects) is an important theme of economic culture. Viewed from a general point of view, a cultural or artistic activity can be broken down into four phases: creation, dissemination, maintenance and formation. The creative phase has a decisive meaning in the whole cultural process, and it demands a special policy to support creative ideas. This phase requires large expenditures and brings no income. The multiplication, the dissemination of cultural works with the participation of large numbers of people and industrial machines, allows the original work to reach a widespread audience. This phase has the greatest economic meaning in the whole process. The value of cultural works has currently become a sizzling issue. The determination of the price of a cultural product does not solely rely on its value but also on other noneconomic factors.

In order to address the ever-increasing needs of our people in the cultural domain, current state policy is to subsidize admission tickets and cultural products that are universal in nature. At certain levels, those subsidies should allow respective sectors to engage in reproduction. We must pay attention to each form of activity, to whether or not the product is an original or a replica, and to the buying power of the working people. This is a very complex matter, and any mistake made will adversely affect the sector's activities and the overall objective of cultural and artistic activities.

A Few Problems That Need To Be Resolved

After the issuance of the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, all sectors in the entire country are improving their management structures, eradicating overbearing regimes, and encouraging certain forms of activities to conduct business in the economic accounting method. The cultural sector is doing the same thing. I think we need to rapidly complete the following key tasks:

1. To classify cultural activities according to their forms, consistent with the sector's new organizational structure: we can distinguish the following three main forms:

--Business, service and industrial cultural organizations. These organizations must totally carry out economic accounting, compute profit and losses, and set up an economic accounting management system as must any other organizations in the national economy.

--Semiaccounting organizations such as theaters, and entertainment troupes. The state must determine the annual subsidy ratio.

--Specialized organizations that must account for grants awarded, such as research institutes, libraries, etc.

The above classification will deter overbearing situations or excessive subsidies for certain organizations and forms of activities that should be profitable. It will also single out specialized institutions that need block grants in order to avoid piecemeal investments, and to stimulate creativeness of units and individuals in the organization. On the other hand, it will serve as a basis for balancing income and expenditures within the organization, reduce state investments, and hasten the capital cycles for the development of the organization. There is a prevailing trend in socialist countries to adopt this form of classification.

2. To step up business and service cultural activities. This is an area that is capable of bringing large returns, and that we do not now exploit. Building, remodeling and maintaining scenic places, historical ruins, and other cultural works and centers will improve the general cultural outlook while bringing large income if we know the right way to invest and to do business in a cultural manner. Investments in industrial cultural organizations are another positive approach.

3. We need to instate an appropriate policy to treat artists, writers, and cultural and artistic researchers. The issue is not favoring a few people but paying appropriate attention to this decisive link in the cultural chain,

aiming at creating more valuable cultural works. A correct treatment policy does not consist solely in paying high writer fees, but encompasses also the improvement of living, working, and rest and relaxation conditions, and the upgrading of educational background. The cultural fund has a great role to play in this matter. We should ask ourselves whether the existing across-the-board funding, or a system of priorities in investments for the benefit of each cultural, artistic organization, and of each individual, is more appropriate. Besides the initial capital awarded by the state, we need to determine procedures concerning the replenishment of the cultural fund through ticket sales, and aid grants from international organizations, or concerning some sort of partnership between the fund and certain profitable forms of cultural activities such as moviemaking and publishing. Income generated from those activities will, in turn, serve as capital for further projects. But in the first place, the cultural fund must be an independent accounting unit in order that it may develop to the fullest extent its supporting role in the stimulation of creative ideas.

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